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### **Editor's intro**



Hello everyone, and welcome to another issue of Hot English. March is Ireland's special month as it's the time for St Patrick's Day. So, we're celebrating this with a special Irish issue. Our main focus is on Irish history and how this has been shown in films. There's a fascinating article on movies that have dealt with this topic. And

in our Face to Face section, we've pitted Unionist leader Ian Paisley against Republican leader Martin McGuinness. We're sure that we'll get a few letters from readers about that one.

Also this month, we're looking at one of Britain's most famous criminal cases: the story of Dr Crippen. Find out what he got up to and why he's so infamous. On another note, you may have seen a **dubbed film** or television series with Will Smith, but have you ever heard him speaking English? Well, now you can find out what he sounds like in English in our US Bar Chat of the month.

Another one of our special features this month is on twins. We've got three amazing twin stories, plus an interview with a twin who is, coincidentally, also a Hot English teacher and a world record holder. For more information on what the record is for, turn to our special feature on twins.

Well, we hope you enjoy reading and listening to this issue of Hot English magazine. All the best and see you next month,



PS Don't forget to order your copy of the Student's Pack or the Teacher's Pack. See the ad in the magazine for more details.

### a Unionist n

### someone who wants Northern Ireland to remain a part of the

### United Kingdom a Republican n

- an Irish person who wants the British to leave Northern Ireland and for the south and north of Ireland to be unified
- a dubbed film n
- a film that has the audio/sound translated into another language
- a budget airline *n* an airline that offers very basic and cheap flights

### damages n

if you are awarded "damages", you are given compensation (usually

### **Magazine Index**

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- Spaniel Superstar & Pitt's Promise
  - Comparing Salaries
- Headline News (pre intermediate)
- **Nursery Rhymes**
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### **Picture of the Month**



This month, our "picture of the month" is an ad for the **budget airline** Ryanair. The two people in the photo are Republican leaders Martin McGuinness and Gerry Adams — two people who are also featuring in this month's magazine as part of our Ireland special. In this ad, they are referring to the departure of the British army from Northern Ireland something that both these politicians wanted. Incidentally, Ryanair just got in trouble for a similar-styled ad in which they used French president Sarkozy and his newly-wedded wife, Carla Bruni. A judge recently awarded them damages, also giving the airline lots of "free" publicity. Very clever!

### DR FINGERS' BLOG

For lots more free content, please visit Dr Fingers' blog: www.hotenglishmagazine.com/blog

All material in this publication is strictly copyright, and all rights are reserved. Reproduction without permission is prohibited. The views expressed in Hot English Magazine do not necessarily represent the views of Hot English Publishing, S.L., although we do think that Crippen is creepy, all dogs should learn German and that it's funny that bishops earn the same as erotic dancers.



### NEWS STORIES



**Spaniel Superstar** 

Dog saves life,

A dog has won an award. Ghillie, a Springer spaniel, saved his owner's life after she collapsed. Ghillie started to bark when he saw his owner on the **floor**. And he didn't stop until some people arrived to help. One of the **rescuers** said, "The only reason that we came to help the lady is because the dog would not shut up. It just barked and barked and in the end we decided that we had to go and see what the problem was". Mrs Wilson was taken to hospital in an ambulance where she made a complete recovery. Now, the community are going to give an award to Ghillie. "He saved my life," said Mrs Wilson. O







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## Comparing Salagi A new study on who earns what.

Match each profession (1 to 6) to its picture (A to F). Answers on page 42



How much do you earn? Have you ever compared your salary to other professions? A new study on salaries has some interesting results. Here they are.

The average British salary is about 30,000 euros. However, two-thirds of the population still earns under this amount; while five thousand people earn more than 1.3 million euros a year. Nearly six million people were in the lowest pay bracket of less than 13,000 euros a year. Cleaners and hairdressers were in this group. After them come farmers, sewer cleaners and checkout staff who earn between 13,000 and 25,000 euros a year.

Next come civil servants, those who work in MI5 (spies), vicars, carpenters and nurses who earn between 25,000 and 35,000 euros. A bit higher up on 35,000 to 45,000 euros are RAF pilots, bishops, police officers, shop managers, vets, taxi drivers, architects, paramedics and

erotic nightclub dancers.

To be in the top ten per cent, you need to be on a salary of about 50,000 euros. A lot of managers and company directors earn this amount. Interestingly, most of the country's spiritual leaders earn less than the average. Muslim imams' salaries are about 15,000 euros a year, while Jewish rabbis are paid around 25,000 euros – the same as Church of England clergy, who also receive free accommodation.

At the very top, we have people such as the prime minister, Gordon Brown, who is on about 220,000 euros a year. Others at the top include stockbrokers and footballers. Some of these people are on seven-figure salaries. Britain's highest-paid executive is Bob Diamond. He is head of the investment arm of Barclays Bank. Last year, he earned a salary of about 300,000 euros, plus bonuses of more than 30 million euros. 3

### a pay bracket n

a category for salaries. If someone is in a low pay bracket, they earn very little money

### a sewer cleaner

a person who cleans the sewers (the pipes/tubes under the ground

### checkout staff

people who work in supermarkets or shops charging people

people who work in government

### the RAF abbi

the Royal Air Force – the pilots, war planes, etc that form part of Britain's air force

**a bishop** *n* a high-ranking person who works for the Anglican church a spiritual leader n

### a church leader

an imam

a Muslim church leader

### the clergy n

the leaders of a church a seven-figure salary

a salary that has seven figures. For example, 1,200,000 euros. 2,650,000 euros, etc

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## Headline News

## Lazy Times

An unusual museum opens to the public.

Are you always doing things? Or do you have a more relaxed lifestyle? If you are the more relaxed type, you might be interested in a new museum in Colombia's capital, Bogota. The museum is dedicated to laziness. **Exhibits** include sofas placed in front of televisions, hammocks and beds, and lots of other things associated with doing nothing. "The idea is to get people thinking about laziness and its opposite: extreme work," said Marcela Arrieta, the museum curator.

The museum is proving to be very popular. "We always think about laziness as an enemy of work. So we wanted to explore that and make people think about the social issues implied in taking a nap, in being jobless or in feeling that maybe we are wasting time – so we want to ask ourselves about that," Marcela added. However, lazy visitors will have to get off the sofa quickly as the museum is only open for a couple of weeks. •



# DoggyD

British police forced to learn German.

"Sitz! Platz! Aus!" These are all German commands for dogs. But now some British police officers are having to learn them. Apparently, dogs respond better to German orders. Commands such as "bissen!" (bite), "sitz" ("sit"), "platz" ("down"), "aus" ("let go") and "holen" ("fetch") are all more effective

As a result, many police dogs are being imported from Germany. "It was guite fun learning a new language," said one of the handlers. "It's amazing how quick they are to respond as soon as you use a German command."

However, the learning is a two-way process. The dogs are also being taught English in the hope they will ultimately become "bilingual" and respond to both languages. "We speak German to them but they are now learning English," a dog handler explained. •



having no desire to work or do anything active

an exhibit n

an object in a museum or exhibition a hammock

a type of bed which is tied between two objects (often trees) with string

a curator

a person who is in charge of the

exhibits in a museum

to take a nap exp to sleep for a short period of time

(often in the afternoon) iobless

to waste time ex

to do something that is not useful or

productive

a couple

a handler

a person who controls and trains

a dog

a two-way process n

a process that involves two things happening at the same time: person A learns and teaches, and person B

learns and teaches, too ultimately

in the end; finally

## NURSERY TIMES CD track 5

This is another part in our series on nursery rhymes and their fascinating origins.

### **Little Miss Muffet**

This rhyme is all about a little girl called Little Miss Muffet. The rhyme is based on a real girl whose name was Patience Muffet. Her stepfather, Dr Muffet (1553-1604), was a famous entomologist (an insect scientist) who wrote the first catalogue of British insects. No one is sure if the poem is based on a true story, but you can imagine it happening.

Little Miss Muffet sat on a tuffet. Eating her curds and whey, Then came a big spider, Who sat down beside her, And frightened Miss Muffet away.





### Little Bo Peep

This song is all about a little shepherdess called Bo Peep. She falls asleep while she is working. The **moral** of the story is that you should take responsibility for your work or face the consequences. Some of the words in other verses of the rhyme have almost completely disappeared from the English language. These include words such as "espied" (saw) and "hillocks" (small hills).

Little Bo peep has lost her sheep, And doesn't know where to find them. Leave them alone and they'll come home, Bringing their **tails** behind them.

### **Little Boy Blue**

There is a theory that "Little Boy Blue" refers to Cardinal Thomas Wolsey (1475-1530). He was an important figure during the reign of

King Henry VIII (April 1509 to January 1547). Wolsey was famous for being an extremely rich and arrogant man. He had many enemies and was unpopular with the people of England. He was called the "Boy Bachelor" after he received his **degree** from Oxford University

at the age of fifteen. The expression "to blow your horn" can mean "to **brag**" – something that Cardinal Wolsey often did. Between 1514 and 1525, Wolsey transformed a medieval manor into the magnificent Hampton Court Palace, which you can still visit today.

At this time, England was a rich country mostly because of the **wool trade** and the export taxes on wool. The reference to "the little boy who looks after the sheep" could refer to

> Wolsey's concern to make money personally from the wool tax.

And the reference to "blue" could come from Wolsey's coat of arms, which included the blue faces of four leopards. Many historians see this rhyme as a form of indirect

criticism of Wolsey. Of course, any open and direct criticism of Wolsey at the time would have meant imprisonment or even death. Eventually, Wolsey fell out of favour, and in 1529 Henry confiscated all of Wolsey's lands and possessions. 3

### a tuffet n

an old word that refers to a unit of measurement - half a basket, more or less. So, the girl was sitting on

a dairy product similar to yoghurt whey r

a liquid that is produced when milk is curdled (processed)

**a shepherdess** *n* a woman who looks after sheep who are in the mountains/hills, etc to fall asleep exp

to start sleeping

a moral n

a lesson you learn from a story/ experience

a hill n

a small mountain

the long part of an animal's body

arrogant a with ideas of superiority about

vourself a bachelor

a man who hasn't married

a degree r

a university qualification to brag v

to say things about how good

you are

the wool trade n the business of buying and selling wool (sheep's hair)

a tax n money you pay to the government

for services: the police, education, etc to fall out of favour

to become unpopular

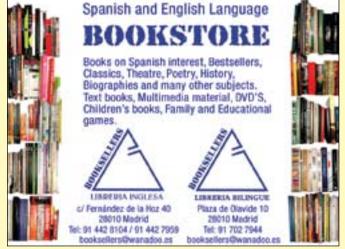
an emblem (series of images) that represents a family/person/ organisation

an area of grass or farmland

lots of hay (dried grass) in one pile

Little Boy Blue come blow your horn, The sheep's in the **meadow**, the cow's in the corn. Where is the little boy who looks after the sheep? He's under a haystack fast asleep.





### CD track 6 -Englishman & US woman

### Story lokes, anecdotes and stories as told by native English speakers.

### **Hair Cut**

A man is getting his hair cut. All of a sudden, he asks the barber, "Hey, I've got a twoyear-old son. When would be the best time to bring him in? And the **barber** answers, "When he's four."



### **Strong Man**

The young man at a construction site is talking about how strong he is. After several minutes, one of the older workers says, "I'll bet you a week's wages that I can carry something in a wheelbarrow over to that building over there that you won't be able to wheel back."

"OK," says the young man. "You're on."

So, the old man grabs the wheelbarrow by the handles and then says to the young man, "Right, get in."

### Sinale man

Jim is 53 years old and still single. One day a friend asks, "Hey, Jim. Why aren't you married? Can't you find anyone?"

And Jim replies, "Actually, I've found many women I wanted to marry, but when I bring them home to meet my parents, my mother doesn't like them."

His friend thinks for a moment and says, "I've got the perfect solution: just find a girl who is just like your mother." "OK," says Jim.

"That sounds like a good idea." A few months

later, the two friends meet again and Jim's friend says, "Hey, Jim, did you find the perfect girl then? Did your mother like

her?"

said Jim. "She was just like my mother. You were right. My mother liked her very much." And the friend says, "Well, then, what's the problem? Why aren't you married?" And Jim replies, "My father doesn't like her." 0







a man who cuts men's hair a construction site r an area of land where they are building something

to bet vi to play a game for money

to carry vb to take something in your arms

from one place to another a wheelbarrow n

a little cart for carrying things. It has

one or more little wheels to wheel vb

to push something in an object

that has wheels

l accept your offer

to use your hands to take suddenly and with force

a handle /

a part of a door/machine, etc that is designed to be held/operated by your hand

sinale n not married





"Yes, I found the perfect girl,"

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### FUNCTIONALIANGUAGE Useful language for successful communication.

CD track 7 - Englishman & US woman

ON ON THE EAR GOAGE OSCIAL VALUE OF SACCESSIAL COMMINANTALION

This month: saying sorry.

### Saying sorry for doing something wrong

- I'm sorry about that.
- I'm sorry that I broke your tennis racket.
- I'm sorry.
- Sorry. (If you tread on someone or bump into someone.)
- Whoops! (informal)
- I'm really sorry about crashing your car.
- Sorry about the mess. I'll clear it up later.
- I'd like to apologise for the way I spoke to you earlier.
- Sorry that I lied to you.



### Saying sorry for someone else

- I'm sorry but little Sally is always smashing things.
- I'm sorry about Jim's behaviour last night.

### Responding to an apology

- Never mind.
- It's OK. / That's OK.
- Don't worry about it.
- We'll be all right.
- No harm done.
- It could have happened to anyone.
- No worries. (informal) o





GLOSSARY tread vb to put your foot on to bump into someone exp to hit someone with your body or a part of your body accidentally to smash vb to break glass; to break completely

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# **Basic English**



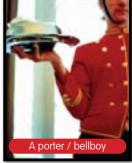












































### CD track 8 -US woman & Englishman ne l Social English

This month: the hotel. Listen and repeat these expressions.

### What you say

- I'd like a room for the night / two nights, etc.
- I'd like a single room / twin room / double room, please.
- How much is the room per night?
- I have a reservation under the name of Smith.
- Do you have a room with airconditioning / heating / television / a balcony / a view of the sea?
- Does the hotel have a restaurant / a bar / a swimming pool / a garage / a safe-deposit box / laundry service / wireless internet connection / room

### service?

- Is breakfast included?
- I'd like an extra bed, please.
- We need a **cot** for the baby, please.
- This room is too cold. / The room is too noisy.
- The light doesn't work.
- What time do we have to check out?
- Could I have the bill now, please?
- What's this item on the bill?

### What you hear

- How many nights would you like to stay?
- What name was the reservation

- made under?
- Do you have a reservation?
- Here's your key. / Here's your key-
- I need to take down your credit card details.
- I need your name and address.
- Do you have a passport with you?
- The room is on the fourth floor.
- The lift is just over there.
- Would you like someone to help you with your bags?
- Breakfast is served between 7 and 11.
- Check-out is at midday.
- Shall I call a taxi for you?

Part II Now listen to this dialogue. In this conversation, Sally is checking into the hotel.

**Receptionist:** Good evening, can I help you?

Sally: Yes, I've got a reservation for a single room.

**Receptionist:** What's the name please? Sally: Jones. Sally Jones.

**Receptionist:** And how many nights are you staying? I'll be checking out on Monday morning. Sally: **Receptionist:** Fine. So you're staying for three nights.

Sally: Yes, that's right.

**Receptionist:** You're in room 245 on the second floor. Here's your

> key-card. The lift is just over there. What time is breakfast served?

Breakfast is served between 7am and 10am. And dinner is served between **Receptionist:** 

6pm and 11pm.

Sally: OK.

Sally:

Receptionist: Please let me know if there's anything that you need. Enjoy your stay.

Sally: Thanks a lot.











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## Headline News

The voice of the people

London 2008

## Word of 2007

Australians vote on word of 2007.

Have you ever suffered from "password fatigue" or caught "man flu"? These are just some of the many new words invented by Australians. And now, these expressions form part of an online competition organised by Australia's Macquarie Dictionary to find the Word of the Year 2007. Here are some of the entries. Which one would you vote for?

- Password fatigue the stress and frustration caused by having to learn so many different passwords.
- Man flu a minor cold contracted by a man who then exaggerates the symptoms in order to avoid going to work.
- Globesity the problem of rising obesity around the globe.

- A floordrobe a floor that is used as a place for keeping your clothes.
- A salad dodger an overweight person.
- Manscaping removing all the hair off a man's body.
- Tanorexia an obsessive desire to have tanned skin.
- Chindia a word used to refer to China and India as a collective unit, often when talking about their combined economic power and strategic importance.
- Pod slurping the practice of downloading large quantities of data to an MP3 player or memory stick.
- A griefer an online computer game player who deliberately sabotages the





an entry

a suggestion/idea for a competition. In this case, the "entry" refers to a word/expression

a cold

if you have a cold, you feel ill and your nose is runny (with liquid coming out of it)

to avoid if you "avoid" doing something, you

try not to do that thing **obesity** *n* the state of being extremely

overweight or fat a dodger n

this word comes from the verb "to dodge", which means to avoid (see previous entry)

to remove V if you "remove" hair, you take it off,

often with a knife tanned skin r

skin that is darker/browner from the sun

a memory stick n a device for storing computer files or data. Also known as a "pen drive

to sabotage to damage deliberately

practical ac that is useful for real situations

table manners *n* the polite (well-educated) things you do or say while you are eating ballroom dancing

a type of dancing in which a man and a woman dance together to a waltz, foxtrot, etc

ironing r

when you do the "ironing", you use an electrical device called an "iron", which makes clothes flat and takes away the creases (the lines)

map reading r looking at a map and seeing which

way to go to boil v to cook in water that is 100℃ a headmaster

the manager/director of a school etiquette

the customs and rules associated with a particular job/occasion, etc

to place one side of a piece of paper/fabric on top of the other a napkin r

a piece of cloth or paper that you use when you are eating cutlery knives, forks, spoons, etc

## **Practical School**

New classes in a school.

What did you learn at school? To read? To write? But what about all those practical

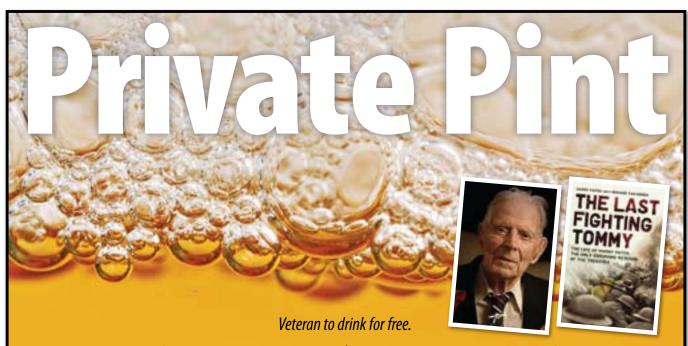


things you need to know about? A school in England is teaching its pupils all sorts of unusual things. During a year-long course, teenagers at Brighton College are taught everything from table manners and ballroom dancing to the correct way to behave on public transport. They also learn practical skills such as ironing, mapreading and how to boil an egg. "Our role is to prepare our pupils for all aspects of adult life," said headmaster Richard Cairns. "Exams are only a part of that preparation. Just as important, in my view, is whether a young person has a grasp of basic etiquette. This is really to make the children's university and working lives easier for them." As part of the lessons on table manners,

students learn how to fold napkins and use cutlery correctly. "Parents I have spoken to are immensely pleased we are doing this," the headmaster explained. •

### **NEWS STORIES**



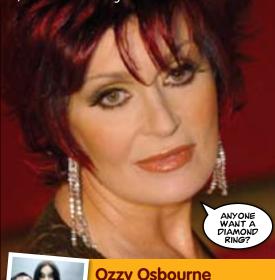


The last **surviving** Briton from the First World War has received a strange award. Harry Patch, who is 109 years old, has been told by his local pub that he can drink all the beer he likes... for free. Harry fought in the First World War and was injured at the Battle of Passchendaele, in which half a million people were killed. He has recently written a book about his experiences called The Last

Fighting Tommy. Now, the **owners** of the Rose and Crown pub in the south of England have decided that Harry needs some recognition for his **bravery**. Harry said, "It's a very kind **gesture**. I suppose some of the young people will be very **jealous** of me now. I just feel like a child in a sweet shop." One of the villagers said, "I just hope he doesn't drink too much now it's free." •

### Sharon's Shock Star throws away £30,000 diamond ring.

The wife of rock star Ozzy Osborne shocked fans at a charity event just recently. Members of the audience watched in amazement as Sharon Osbourne threw her diamond **ring** into the **crowd**. Sharon Osborne was **hosting** a **fundraiser** for Elton John's Aids Foundation in London. In a moment of excitement, she decided to throw away her diamond ring. A friend of Sharon's said, "It was a diamond ring that Sharon had bought for herself a while back. She shouted, 'Here, have a diamond too." Later in the evening, a spokesperson for Sharon Osborne confirmed that the diamond was probably worth "in the region of £30,000". Sharon Osborne is well known for raising money for charity: she has her own cancer foundation and she often donates Ozzy's items to different charities. Last year, in a garage sale, Sharon sold a pair of Ozzy's trainers for \$1,800 and a coffee **mug** for \$1,200. "They are very, very generous people," one close friend said. •



Ozzy Osbourne

John Michael "Ozzy" Osbourne was born on 3rd December 1948. He is the lead vocalist of the English heavy metal ban, Black Sabbath. He is also the star of the

reality show, The Osbournes. He became infamous after biting the head off a dove.

survivina adi still living after a difficult/

dangerous situation

a prize as recognition for something good you have done injured a

with physical damage: a broken leg,

a cut, etc the Battle of Passchendaele

this battle was fought in Belgium in 1917 and was one of the biggest battles of the First World War (1914-1918)

a person who possesses something

the condition of showing no fear in a situation of danger a gesture

an action that shows an attitude or opinion

a feeling of desire for something/ someone that another person has a charity event n

an event that is designed to

get money for a charity (an organisation that helps poor people, etc)
in amazement exp

if you watch something "in amazement", you can't believe what you are seeing

a ring n

a piece of jewellery that you wear on your finger

a group of people who are watching something

to host vb

if you "host" an event, you organise it a fundraiser

an event that is designed to get money for a charity

trainers r shoes that are used for doing sport

a mug n a large cup for drinking tea or coffee

### **Exercise**

See if you can do this matching exercise. Look at the list of things (1 to 14), and the photos (A-N). Write a letter next to the name of each thing in the list below.

Answers on page 42





This is another part in our mini-series on strange facts. Whoever thought the world was so phenomenal?



Armadillos have four babies at a time and they are always all the same sex.

Bats have only one baby a year.

Honey found in the tombs of Egyptian pharaohs is edible, despite being thousands of years old.

Deer can't eat hay.

Human birth control pills work on gorillas. Incidentally, gorillas sleep as much as fourteen hours per day. What a life!



Bullet-proof vests, fire escapes, windshield wipers, and laser printers were all

invented by women.

The drink 7-UP was created in 1929. But where did the name come from? Well, "7" was selected because the original containers were 7 ounces. And "UP" indicated the direction of the **bubbles**.

Alcohol mixed with a carbonated drink is absorbed into the body more quickly than a straight shot.

Gopher snakes in Arizona are not poisonous, but when frightened they may hiss and shake their tails like rattlesnakes.



What do you do if you have a hangover? Here are some international cures. The ancient Greeks thought that eating cabbage would cure it and the ancient Romans preferred eating fried canaries. Today, some Germans eat a breakfast

drink spinach tea, the Puerto Ricans rub half a lemon under their drinking arm, Haitians stick

13 black-headed needles into the cork of the bottle from which they drank. and Russians drink vodka as a hair-of-the-dog cure. Which one would you like to try next time? 🗯



### **GLOSSARY**

edible adi

that you can eat

dried grass often given as food to animals

an ounce n
a unit of measurement which is

about 28 grams a **bubble** n

a ball of air in a liquid a carbonated drink

a fizzy drink with bubbles of gas

to absorb vb to take something into your body

through a natural process

a straight shot n an amount of alcohol with no ice

when a snake "hisses", it makes a

sound similar to "ssss

to shake vb

to move from side to side or up and down

a tail n

the back part of an animal's body. It

is often long a hangover

a feeling of pain in your body/head

after drinking too much alcohol

cabbage n a type of vegetable with many

leaves

a small yellow bird

spinach n a type of vegetable that consists of green leaves. Popeye eats it

to rub vb

to move up and down or from side

to side over a surface using pressure

a needle n a long, thin, sharp piece of metal

often used for sewing

a cork n

an object in a bottle of wine that

stops the wine coming out a hair-of-the-dog cure n

a cure for a hangover that consists of drinking more alcohol





C/Argumosa, 10 (Metro Lavapiés) Madrid Tel. 914 67 76 11

### Corny Criminals CD track 15 - Irishwoman & Englishman

Here's another part in our series on good, bad and funny criminals.

### **Drinking Bribes**

Driver loses her licence minutes after passing her test.

It was an important day for Kristen Andrews as she was

taking her driving test. Like most people, she was very nervous. But luckily, her examiner was a friendly chap, so they started chatting. "I promised to buy him a drink if I got my licence, and he said that would be lovely," 24-year-old Kristen explained. "Anyway, I passed (surprise, surprise) and we went to a café where we had a couple of wines. Then, I offered to drive him home. I was so happy I iust didn't think about the

drink-drive rules." Kristen, who is from the village of Marling, was stopped by police a few metres down the road for erratic driving. After taking a breath test, police found that both she and the examiner, Ivan Finn, 48, were three times over the limit. "I was supposed to be happy, but now I've lost my licence and I can't take the test again for another six months," Kristen said.

### Beer Thief

What I don't understand is, what could they possibly want with all that beer?" said a member of the

Gardai (the Irish police) after a thief drove a truck into the

Guinness Brewery in Dublin and made off with a trailer full of beer. "That guy drove away with 180 kegs of Guinness, 180 kegs of Budweiser and

90 kegs of Carlsberg which means about 40,000 pints. It's worth an estimated £45,000,"

a spokesperson for the brewery said.

"This is the first time such a robbery has taken place on the company's premises. We've never had such a breach of security before this and we're taking it extremely seriously," the spokesperson added. "All **CCTV footage** is

being viewed." The Gardai have appealed for information.

### Flash in the Pan

Man in unusual protest.

I wanted to protest against my sentence, so I took my clothes off in public," said Marcus Wagner, who was in court for... taking his clothes off in public. The 60-year-old had previously run onto a football

pitch **naked** during a soccer match. At the time, he was protesting against a decision by the **referee** that went against his football team. The latest incident took

place during Wagner's appeal against a conviction for

indecent exposure. A witness said, "The court

> withdrew for deliberations and during the break this guy took his clothes off right in front of us."The man's lawyer said, "My client sees himself as a living work of art. I demand a

reprieve of this

sentence."

### a driving test n

a driving exam that gives you permission to drive if you pass it

a man

to chat vb to talk casually with others

erratic driving

driving that is not controlled, consistent or regular
a breath test n

if you are given a "breath test", you must blow into a tube. A machine then shows the police how much alcohol you have been drinking

with more alcohol in your body than

a licence

a permit to drive

a truck r

a large vehicle for transporting

goods to make off with something exp to steal something and to leave

quickly a trailer

a vehicle for transporting goods that

is pulled by another vehicle to drive away with something exp to steal something and to leave in a car/vehicle quickly

a keg

a small barrel (container) for beer a breach of security n

if there is a "breach of security" security has been violated CCTV abb

closed-circuit television – cameras that film what happens in the street,

footage r

"footage" of an event is a part of it that has been filmed to appeal for something exp

to ask for something (money, help, etc) that you desperately need naked a

with no clothes

a referee

a person who manages/controls/ directs a game of football

indecent exposure n

the crime of showing parts of your naked body in public

a witness r

a person who sees a crime

to withdraw for deliberations exp to have a break during a trial so people can discuss an aspect of it

to delay or cancel a punishment



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	Población:
Número de teléfono:	
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Firma:

Wacky but absolutely true emergency calls. Celebrating 70 years of stupid calls.

Here's another part of our mini-series on ridiculous but real emergency phone calls

Call I – The Wrong Trousers

Operator: Police. Can I help you? Yes, hello. Is that the police?

**Operator:** Yes.

Caller: Erm, I'm just calling because I've

just bought these trousers.

**Operator:** This is an emergency number. Caller: Yes, and the trousers don't fit.

But I can't find the receipt. What rights do I have?

**Operator:** I don't know, but you're wasting

police time.

**Caller:** But do they have to accept

the return of the trousers? They just don't fit. I wanted a

size...

Operator: I'm terminating this call. Call II - The Wrong Club

Operator: Police. Can I help you?

Yeah, I'd like to report this guy who works

in Bojolly's, the nightclub in Harden

**Operator:** Is this an emergency?

Caller: Well, this guy got all aggressive with me

and he starting coming on. Where did this happen?

Operator: Like I said, in Bojolly's. I was out with

my mates and we tried to get into this

club.

**Operator:** Yes, I know. Bojolly's.

Caller: Yes, and this guy wouldn't let us in. He said it was cos I wasn't wearing shoes,

> but I had these well-cool trainers on.. This is not a police matter, and it certainly

Operator: isn't an emergency.

So, what am I supposed to do? Caller:

I don't care.

**Operator:** 

to fit vb if clothing "fits" you, it is the right

CD track 16 -

a receipt r

a piece of paper with information about what you have bought in a

to waste police time exp to cause the police to spend time on

something that isn't important

(he) started coming on exp inform

he became aggressive to me to let someone in exp to permit someone to enter

cos exp because

well-cool adj inform very fashionable

trainers n

hoes for doing sport ("sneakers" in

US Enalish)

Every year, the English celebrate Pancake Day. This is held on the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday, which is the first day of Lent (the 40 days before Easter). This year, Pancake Day was on 5th February. Pancakes are traditionally eaten on Pancake Day. However, you can eat them at any time during the year, and they are perfect for a late breakfast, or an afternoon snack. To make your own pancakes, you'll need a bowl for mixing the ingredients, a wooden spoon, a container for pouring the pancake mixture, a frying pan and a plate. Here is our recipe for pancakes.

### **Ingredients**

This is what you'll need to make 6 large pancakes.

- 100 grams of **flour**.
- A pinch of salt.
- One egg.
- 250 ml of milk.
- Butter.

### **Preparation**

- Mix the flour and the salt in the bowl.
- Add the egg and half the milk, and when it's all well mixed, add the rest of the milk.
- Leave the mixture to stand for about 20 minutes.
- Heat up a little butter in the frying pan. Then, add enough mixture to cover the bottom of the pan.
- Turn the pancake over once then remove. Put the pancake on a plate and make another one.

Traditionally the pancake is filled or covered with lemon and sugar, but they can also be served with cheese, ham, jam, chocolate or any mixture of those things. Delicious! 3

to take off



You've probably seen him on Hugo Boss ads. He starred in the Woody Allen film *Match Point*, and he's been the face of Versace for their men's collection. He is Ireland's hottest actor and model. He is Jonathan Rhys Meyers.

eyers was born Jonathan Michael Francis O'Keeffe in Dublin on 27th July 1977. His stage name comes from his mother's maiden name, Meyers. When Meyers was three years old, his parents separated. His mother raised Jonathan and his brother Alan, while his other two brothers went to live at their grandmother's house with their father.

Later, Meyers was **expelled from school** at the age of 16, and spent much of his time in **pool** halls. One day, casting agents looking for Irish boys to appear in a film **spotted** Meyers at a pool hall in Cork. He didn't get a part in that film, but



they **encouraged** him to pursue a career in acting. His first film role came soon afterwards in A Man of No

Importance (1994). In 1996, he appeared in the film Michael Collins as Collins' assassin.



starring in the The Tudors (2007) as young King Henry VIII. He was nominated for the Golden Globe Award for Best Performance by an Actor In A Television

Festival. In 2006, he

appeared in Mission:

Myers is currently

Impossible III.

Meyers has other talents as well. He did much of the singing in the film Velvet Goldmine. And he was chosen as the face for the Versace men's collection of Autumn/Winter 2006 and Spring 2007, plus he's also been the face of the Hugo

> Boss men's fragrance range since 2005.

Like many other stars, his personal life has been the topic of many news stories. He has been romantically linked to several actresses in the past including Toni Collette, Rachael Leigh Cook, and Irish model

Glenda Gilson. He and Match Point co-star



Scarlett Johansson both deny rumours of a romance. He's also had a few personal problems. In January 2007, Meyers checked into a rehab facility seeking treatment for alcohol abuse. And on 18th November 2007, he was arrested in Dublin Airport and charged with being drunk and in breach of the peace. ②

### a maiden name r

a married woman's surname before she is married – in some Englishspeaking countries, women change their surnames when they marry

Born Jonathan Michael O'Keeffe on 27th July 1977.

Actor and model. Most

Match Point, Bend it Like

famous films include

Beckham and Mission

Impossible III.

to raise vb
if you are "raised" by someone, you re educated and looked after by that person until you are an adult to expel from school exp

to order someone to leave school and never return as a form o punishment . a pool hall *n* 

### a place where you can play pool (a

game that is similar to billiards) **a casting agent** *n* a person who selects the actors

actresses for a film to spot  $\nu b$ 

### to notice to encourage vb

to try to persuade someone to do something a career a job or profession you choose to

### do for the majority of your working life

a person who is paid to kill another

### a fragrance n

an aftershave/cologne/perfume a range

### a number of different products that are part of the same series of products

### a rehab facility

a type of hospital for people who are addicted to alcohol or drugs in breach of the peace r

if you are "in breach of the peace", you are committing a crime by creating a lot of noise in the stree



His film roles range from a rock star (in Velvet Goldmine –1998) to a girls' football trainer (in Bend It Like Beckham – 2002). In 2005, Meyers



starred in Woody Allen's film Match Point, for which he received a Chopard Trophy at the Cannes Film



For thousands of years, Ireland lived in isolation. Then came the Vikings, the Normans and the English and a thousand years of blood, violence and death. This is the story of Ireland. By Martin Quinn.

795 AD: Ireland suffered its first Viking raid when Norwegian long ships attacked Rathlin Island, just off the northeast coast. These raids happened for over 200 years.

 $852\,\mathrm{AD}$ : Dublin was **founded** by the Vikings, who later built the ports of Waterford and Limerick. These ports were used by the Vikings for raids within Ireland but also as trading centres.



1014: Brian Boru, the "Ard Rí" (High King) of Ireland, finally defeated the Vikings at the Battle of Clontarf. King Brian was killed in the battle. The Vikings eventually mixed with the natives and became Irish.

1169: Norman knights attacked Ireland and conquered Dublin, Wexford and Waterford. This was the beginning of English involvement in

1315: In 1314, Robert the Bruce finally defeated the English in Scotland at Bannockburn after an **uprising** started by the Scotsman William Wallace. The next year, Robert's brother, Edward, was invited by the Irish to become their High King and help them against the English. Edward brought fighters called "gallowglasses" (foreign warriors) to help.

1367: Many Normans adopted Irish customs and began to speak Gaelic. They became known as the Anglo-Irish. However, the English king passed laws to prevent this, called The Statutes of Kilkenny, and the Anglo-Irish were banned from speaking the native language (amongst other things). The laws were ineffective as nobody in Ireland listened much to the English king.

1536: The **Protestant Reformation** reached England when King Henry VIII broke from the Roman Catholic Church. The people of England, Scotland and Wales accepted Protestantism but Ireland remained Catholic. Henry tried to subdue the Anglo-Irish and Gaelic lords of Ireland and convert the country to Protestantism. The island was eventually conquered totally by the English but it took a century and constant conflict, ending with the Nine Years War.

1594-1603: The Nine Years War was a **rebellion** led by the Gaelic chieftains "Red" Hugh O'Donnell and Hugh O'Neill with the help of Spain. It was finally crushed when a Spanish force was defeated by the

English at Kinsale, near Cork in 1601. The two chieftains eventually surrendered and went into exile in Spain where their descendants still live. This event is known as "The Flight of the Earls".

1641: After the Nine Years War, more Protestants began to settle in Ireland. Their descendants would become the ruling class in Ireland until the twentieth century. Hatred between the Catholic Irish and Protestant British led to centuries of misery. A rebellion by the Irish broke out in the north and massacres were common on both sides.

1649: After the English Civil War (1642 and 1651) the new English leader, Oliver Cromwell, invaded Ireland with his army. This man is probably the most hated person in Irish history. It has been estimated that Cromwell's actions left 15-20 percent of





the Irish population dead or in exile. War, **famine** and plague destroyed the country, and the native Irish were given two options, "Go to hell or to Connacht". In short, if you didn't go to the province of Connacht (in the west) you would be killed. Many historians agree that if something like this happened today it would be described correctly as **genocide**.

1689–1691: The Williamite War. This was fought between James I of England (a Catholic) and his son-in law, William of Orange (who was a Dutch Protestant). James had been deposed



as king and William was invited to replace him. James and his army, the Jacobites, fled to Ireland and were defeated in a war against William's army (who, ironically, had the Popes blessing). This victory is still celebrated today by Irish Unionists and is known

as "The 12th" or "The 12th of July". As a result of the war, many Irish Jacobites left Ireland and joined the Spanish and French armies. They became known as the "Wild Geese".



1691-1798: After the war. laws (called the Penal Laws) were created to oppress Irish Catholics. These laws meant that Catholics were restricted in **religious practice** or land ownership. The laws

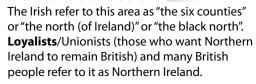
also affected the Dissenters (Presbyterian Protestants) too. The climax of the struggle against the Penal Laws was a Protestant-led rebellion in 1798.

1801: Ireland and Britain (England, Wales and Scotland) became a single state in the Act of Union. The combined nations were known as the United Kingdom (these days, the United Kingdom refers to England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland).



1845-1852: "An Gorta Mór" (The Potato Famine) killed over one million people and around one million people left on ships, mostly to America. The ships were often known as Coffin Ships because most of the passengers died on the voyage.

 $1916\text{-}1923\text{:}\,\mathsf{The}\,\mathsf{Easter}$ **Rising** broke out in Dublin. This was followed by a war of independence against the British. At the end of this war, Ireland was left semi-independent with the six north-eastern counties still part of Britain and becoming known by Britain as Northern Ireland.



1949: The twenty-six southern counties in the south became a republic known as the Republic of Ireland.

1969: Loyalist **mobs** led by members of the B-Specials (a police reserve unit) attacked Catholic areas in Belfast and Derry, starting "The Troubles". Some 3,600 people died

during this war that the IRA waged against the British Army and Loyalist paramilitaries.

2007: After years of negotiations, a deal was reached for power sharing in Northern Ireland between Unionists and Nationalists. Success! Or is it? We'll have to see. 🔾



a raid n an attack

to found vb

to establish

a trading centre

a town/city/port where things are exported or imported

**an uprising** *n* an attack by the people against the government/state the Protestant Reformation n

a movement that Martin Luther

began in 1517 a rebellion

an attack against the rulers/leaders

a chieftain a leader of a tribe

to crush vb

to destroy completely to surrender

to stop fighting because you accept you have lost the war/battle

to go into exile *exp* to go to live in another country

because it is too dangerous for you

in your own country a descendant n someone's "descendants" are the

people in later generations who are related to them the ruling class

the people who rule in a country misery r

suffering, unhappiness, poverty, etc famine / a situation in which there is no food

to eat and people are dying

the systematic extermination of a whole race/group of people

a son-in-law

the husband of your daughter to depose vb

if a ruler or leader is "deposed", he/ she is forced to leave a Unionist n

a person who wants Northern . Ireland to be a part of Britain to oppress vb

to dominate through the use of force or authority

religious practice if you are restricted in "religious practice", you cannot do the things that your religion demands

a coffin n box/container for a dead body the Easter Rising

Nationalists against the British

a county n Ireland is divided into many counties (areas of land)

a Loyalist n

a person who wants Northern Ireland to be part of Britain a mob

a group of people who are going to attack something/someone

the Troubles

a period of Irish history (1963-1985) in which Irish nationalists wer fighting against the British army and Unionists

a paramilitary

a civilian who is part of a type of military organisation

power sharing

a situation in which two opposing parties are in power. In this case, it is referring to the Unionists and the

a Nationalist n

# Cinema

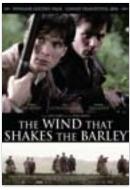
Ireland has had a violent history with many colourful characters. All of this makes for great cinema, which is why Ireland has featured so often as a topic for films. Here are a few films that touch on the topic of Irish history. By Martin Quinn.



### MICHAEL COLLINS (1996).

Starring Liam Neeson and directed by Neil Jordan, this **biopic** is about the famous **IRA** leader and founding father of the modern Irish Republic. It was very controversial at the time of its release.

Northern Irish **Unionists** were furious at the film's depiction of a man they consider to be a terrorist and a **traitor**. At the same time, **Nationalists praised** the film for its portrayal of Collins – someone glorified by Irish people as a **courageous guerrilla** leader who defeated the British Empire through the use of clever tactics. There were many **historical inaccuracies** in the film but most viewers accepted that the film and its discrepancies were in the spirit of a time of turmoil and change.



### THE WIND THAT SHAKES THE BARLEY (2006).

Equally controversial is the film *The Wind that Shakes the Barley*. It is directed by English director Ken Loach and stars Irish actor Cillian Murphy. This film tells the fictional

story of two brothers fighting the British during the **War of Independence**. Later, the two brothers fight on opposing sides during the **Irish Civil War** that follows. The film describes the political differences dividing Republican



volunteers, the gap between left and right, and the feeling of **betrayal** by many people after the **Anglo-Irish Treaty** left the six counties in the north of Ireland to the British. Set at the same point of history as *Michael Collins, The Wind that Shakes the Barley* won the Palm d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival.



### IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER (1993).

Directed by Terry
George and Jim
Sheridan and starring
Daniel Day Lewis,
In the Name of the
Father was nominated
for eight Oscars
and received much
critical acclaim. It

tells the story of the **Guildford Four** – the true story of four Irish people falsely convicted and imprisoned for a series of IRA bombings in

England. The story is told through the eyes of Belfast man Gerry Conlon, who spent 14 years in an English "gaol" [the Gaelic spelling for "jail] for crimes that were later admitted to by an actual IRA active service unit. The Four were convicted on the basis of confessions that were beaten out of them by English police and doctored police notes. Conlon (played by Daniel Day Lewis) along with Paul Hill, Paddy Armstrong and Carole Richardson were eventually released and their convictions were overturned.





### **BLOODY** SUNDAY/ SUNDAY.

Coverage of the recent conflict in Northern Ireland has continued in

the form of TV movies. Two of these concentrate on the events of 30th January 1972 in the city of Derry, known as "Bloody Sunday". This was a massacre of 14 unarmed Nationalist civil-rights protestors and the subsequent cover-up by the British army. This all took place during a time called "The Troubles". The first film, directed



by Paul Greengrass, tells the story through the eyes of Ivan Cooper, the man who organised the march, and from the point of view of Leo Young,

brother of John Young, one of the victims. The second film, written by hard-hitting English scriptwriter Jimmy McGovern, also deals with the reaction of many young Nationalists, which often consisted of joining the IRA.



### H3/SOME MOTHER'S SON.

The story of the 1981 **Hunger Strike** in Long Kesh prison has also been adapted

for the screen. Terry George directed Some Mother's Son, the story of the mother of a hunger striker and the emotional struggle between respecting her son's wishes and wanting to stop him from dying. The other film, H3, was written by Brian Campbell and surviving hunger striker Laurence McKeown. Both films dealt with the struggle inside northern Irish prisons between the British authorities and Irish Republicans, who wanted to be treated as prisoners of war. As part of the protest, the prisoners refused to wear uniforms (a symbol of criminality), leaving only blankets to cover themselves. When this failed, a no-wash protest started when they refused to "slop out". A hunger strike, led by the prisoners' leader Bobby Sands was the final option. Eventually, ten men died, causing huge riots and sparking world-wide protests.

### **UP-COMING FILMS**

Since the end of The Troubles, there has been a new series of films about the war. And there are several films in the pipeline that should be released later this year. The last six weeks of Bobby Sands' life is to be made into a film entitled Hunger. This film will focus more on the physical effects of the hunger strike on the young man rather than politics. The story of Francis Hughes, the second hunger striker to die, is also to be made into a film. Hughes was on the run from the security forces for over five years and became a folk hero in the area where he was from, South Derry, with many stories told about his confrontations with the British Army. Another film, about the life of James Connolly, is also in the pipeline. Connolly, a trade union leader and workers' rights campaigner, was executed for his part in the Easter Rising of 1916. Irish cinema has always produced many notable films and will, undoubtedly, continue to do so in the years to come. •

**a biopic** *n* a film about someone's life the IRA ab

the Irish Republican Army – an armed group who were fighting against the British occupation of

### a Unionist n

a person who wants Northern Ireland to remain a part of Britain

a person who acts against his/her

### a Nationalist n

a person who wants Ireland to be unified – with the northern part becoming part of Ireland, too to praise

to say good things about something/someone

### courageous ac

brave: with no fear of danger a guerrilla n

a fighter who is part of an irregular army (not a state/government

### a historical inaccuracy n

something that isn't true according to history

### the War of Independence n

a war fought between the Irish and the British (1919-1921). In the end, the south became independent. but the northern part remained a nart of Britain

### the Irish Civil War

a war fought in Ireland (1922-1923) as a result of the division of Ireland after the War of Independence

### betrayal r

the act of doing something against your country

### the Anglo-Irish Treaty

the agreement signed at the end of the War of Independence. It left Ireland divided between the south

### the Guildford Four

four people accused of being members of the IRA and of planting bombs in the English town of Guildford

### to beat something out o

someone ext to hit someone many times in order

to make them talk to overturn a conviction exp

to say that a previous conviction (sentence) was not valid a cover-up

### an attempt to hide the truth the Troubles

a period of Irish history in which Irish Nationalists were fighting against the British army and Unionists (1963-1985)

### the 1981 Hunger Strike

a protest by Irish Nationalist prisoners who demanded to be . treated as prisoners of wa

### a hunger striker

a form of protest (often by prisoners) that involves refusing

### to slop out phryb

to clean/empty the toilet (often a bucket) that is in a prisoner's cell

### in the pipeline ex

if something is "in the pipeline", there are plans for it to happen

if a prisoner is "on the run", he/she has escaped and the police are looking for him/her

## Cets in relanc

The Celts are a mysterious people who have lived in Europe for thousands of years. In Ireland, Celtic culture is considered an important part of the country's **charm**. Because of Ireland's Celtic connection, Ireland has friendly **ties** with other parts of Western Europe, including Scotland, Wales and Spain. By Martin Quinn.

### HISTORY

Although no-one is sure of the origin of the Celts, their original homeland is thought to have been southern Germany and Austria. They moved across Europe and covered a large area from modern-day Turkey to Spain. Irish Celts are thought to have come to Ireland from northern Spain about 3,000 vears ago.

When the Celts got to Ireland, they brought many skills and traditions with them, including their use of iron instead of bronze, the Gaelic language and their music. It was here that the culture of the Celts survived in its strongest sense until modern times. One reason for this was the fact that the Romans never invaded Ireland so the culture was left intact for many centuries.

Later on, the Celtic Irish fought with Viking invaders. The Celts finally defeated the Vikings at the Battle of Clontarf, led by the High King, Brian Boru, in 1014. At this time, Ireland, now a

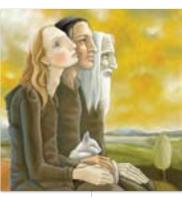


Christian country, became known as "the land of saints and scholars" because it was unaffected by the major fighting force in Europe: the Huns. In this period, known as "the Dark Ages", much knowledge throughout

Europe was lost and was only preserved by Irish monks in beautifully decorated texts and drawings. The next group of people to come to Ireland were the Normans (from England and Wales, but originally from northern France) and many of their customs and practices were adopted by the Celts.

### MYTHS AND LEGENDS

Ireland is a land of stories, fairy tales and legends. There are literally thousands of them. They were originally told by storytellers who never wrote anything down but memorised these sagas. Later, they were written down by the monks after Ireland's conversion to Christianity by Saint Patrick. Many of these



stories were about gods and fighting men, war, conquest, love and betrayal. One of the most famous was the Táin bó Cuailgne (the Cattle Raid of Cooley), the story of a war for the **ownership** of a supernatural **bull** between the provinces of Ulster (in the

north) and Connacht (in the

west). The story goes that the army of Connacht, led by the warrior queen Maeve, invaded Ulster while the fighters of that province were affected

by a curse. The only warrior not struck down was the greatest of them all, Cúchulainn, the son of the god Lú. Cúchulainn had to defend the narrow entry into Ulster near the modernday town of Dundalk until the rest of the army recovered. He did this successfully and the army of Ulster won the war, but Maeve never forgave him and planned her revenge. She got this several years later when Cúchulainn, alone again, was killed by her army. As he died, Cúchulainn tied himself to a rock so that he would die standing, facing his enemies, thereby assuring his fame forever.

Another legend tells the story of the settlement of Ireland. Five races of people came, one after the other to the country, the first led by Cessair,

the daughter of Noah in the wake of the great flood. The final race came from a place known as the "Land of the Dead" (this is translated from ancient Gaelic as "Spain"), led by their king Mil Espáine who died before he could see

Ireland. His wife Scota (who Scotland is named after) led the Milesians to Ireland, where they fought a battle with the Tuatha dé Danaan (the Fairy People) for control of the country, which they won.

These days, if you're lucky, you can hear these stories over a few pints of Guinness and a glass of John Jameson's down in the local pub. 3



### charm n

the quality of being nice, pleasant and attractive

a tie n

a connection betrayal r

the act of doing something against the country that you are from cattle r

nammals of the genus "Bos": cows, bulls, oxen, etc

an attack

**ownership** *n* if you have "ownership" of something, that thing is yours

a bull r

### a curse r

a supernatural power that causes bad things to happen

struck down 🛭

if you are "struck down" by something, you are affected by that thing – often an illness

### to forgive vb

to accept someone's apologies; to excuse someone for a mistake/error

doing something bad to someone who has done something bad



## IMFITZPATRICK

The iconic red and black image of Ché Guevara is known all over the world. It's a symbol of revolt and is used by many left-wing groups. But did you know that the artist who designed the poster form of the image was Irish? His name is Jim Fitzpatrick, and he's one of Ireland's most famous artists of Celtic art. By Martin Quinn.



### **ROCK ALBUMS**

Jim Fitzpatrick, a native of Dublin, is well-known in Ireland for his Celtic art. Many of the myths and legends of the island

have been drawn and published by him and his publishing company *De Danaan Press*. He has also designed book covers and album sleeves, including the cover of rock band Thin Lizzy's album *Black Rose*.

### ¡CHÉ VIVE! – BÁS NO BUA! (Death or Victory)

Fitzpatrick's most famous work is his interpretation of Cuban photographer Alberto Korda's picture of Ché Guevara. It was published just before Ché's death in Bolivia in 1967.

Coincidentally, Ché, the famous revolutionary, also had Irish ancestry (from County Galway). Jim, who knew Ché personally, released the poster copyright-free, in tune with Guevara's socialist



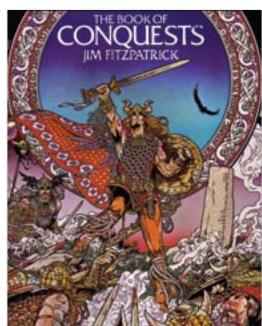
beliefs and ensuring that he never made a penny from one of the most famous images in history. It is now the symbol of revolution, and is often used by

revolutionary groups. Paradoxically, it has also been used as a fashion icon in the western world.

### CELTIC ARTWORK

However, most of the artist's work isn't political, but cultural. His depictions of the mythology, legends and history of ancient Ireland have made him a **household name** in "the 'Oul Sod" (Ireland).

His Celtia series (1975) along with The Book of Conquests (1978) and The Silver Arm (1981) show the culture of Ireland visually, and accompany the poems, sagas and folk tales of the island. Jim is considered an authority on mythology and



has **lectured** throughout the US and Europe on the matter. The Irish Department of Foreign Affairs has even published some of his work to help promote the country throughout the world.

### OTHER WORKS

Jim Fitzpatrick is also closely associated with tragic Irish rock legend Phil Lynott, who died



in 1986. Lynott's band, Thin Lizzy, had some of their album covers designed by Fitzpatrick including *Johnny the Fox* (1976) and *Black Rose* (1979). Jim has also designed book

covers, most notably for Irish-American author Morgan Llywelyn's book *Bard: The Odyssey of the Irish* (1984). He has also compiled a collection of paintings, *Mostly Women*, and has drawn much of the landscape of Ireland.

At the moment, Jim is concentrating on his *Mostly Women* series, although there is talk of a third edition in the series of myths that includes *The Book of Conquests* and *The Silver Arm*. This volume has been called *The Son of the Sun*. We look forward to its release.

Suggested reading: *Erin Saga*: (DeDanaan Press, Dublin). **⊙** 



to lecture vb

to give a formal talk to the public

## GAEL SPORTS

The Irish are well known for their love of sports; and many Irish sportspeople and teams have competed successfully on the international stage in popular sports such as football, rugby and boxing. However, the official sport of Ireland is in fact Gaelic Football, a game native to Ireland and generally only played by Irish people. Find out more about Gaelic Football and other native sports of Ireland. By Martin Quinn.

### STRUCTURE AND HISTORY

Gaelic sports are coordinated by the Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA). This organisation was started in 1884 to promote games of Irish origin. This was at a time when Irish sports (as well as the Irish language) were dying. Sport has always had a controversial role in the history of the Irish nation. The most infamous incident was the murder by the police of fourteen spectators and a player (Michael Hogan, who has a **stand** named after him) in Croke Park in 1920 during the **War of Independence**. However, sport in Ireland is generally better known for its positive contribution to Irish society. In fact, many former Gaelic Football

players have become successful football (soccer) players, including former Celtic manager Martin O'Neill and ex-Northern Ireland international and Real Mallorca player Gerry Armstrong.

### GAELIC FOOTBALL

Gaelic Football is the most popular of the native games. It is completely **amateur**. Unlike soccer, the players can **handle** the ball. It is played by bouncing and **toe-tapping** the ball. The goals are H-shaped and a point is scored by kicking the ball over the **crossbar**. A goal (worth three points) is scored when the ball is kicked under the crossbar, as in soccer.



HURLING

Hurling is said to be the fastest team sport in the world and is one of the

oldest. It dates back to before the time of Christ and has been mentioned in many ancient Celtic legends. Along with its female counterpart, "camogie", hurling is played with fifteen players (as with Gaelic football) on each side but with a much smaller ball (called a "sliothar"). The ball is hit with sticks. Players have to flick the ball into their hands (they can't pick it up) and then balance it on the stick (known as a "camán") as

they run. Goals and points are scored in the same way as Gaelic Football. There is also a competition known as the *Poc Fada* (long shot) where the competitors attempt to hit the ball across a course in the least number of shots.

Hurling is popular mainly in the province of Munster in the south of Ireland with Cork, Kilkenny and Tipperary having very strong sides. These three teams have won the All-Ireland Championship 85 times between them. In the north, the only team of note is Antrim.

### **ROUNDERS**

Rounders is considered to be a game of the schoolyard, and isn't taken seriously, although there are international matches and rounders associations that exist as far away as Canada and Pakistan. The game is much more famous because of its connection to the origins of baseball in the United States. It is believed to have been brought to the US by Irish immigrants where it underwent numerous rule changes before eventually becoming baseball.

### HANDBALL

Handball is similar to squash or La Pelota
Vasca, and many people believe that
Handball and Pelota are related because of
strong trade relations in the past between
Galway in the west of Ireland and the
Basque Country. It is played by hitting
the ball with either of your hands against
the walls of a court. It can be played by
two, three or four players and only the
player that serves can win a point. Unlike
other Gaelic sports, handball is played in quite
a few countries. A very competitive world
championship is held every three years. ©



### GLOSSARY

### a stand n

an area in a stadium where people can sit

### the War of Independence

a war fought between the Irish and the British (1919-1921). In the end, the south became independent, but the northern part remained a part of Britain

### an amateur /

a sportsperson who doesn't earn money for playing the sport

### to handle vb

to touch the ball with your hand to toe-tap vb to kick the ball gently (so you can

catch it) using the end of the boot (where your toes are)

### a crossbar n

a horizontal piece of metal that goes across the goal. It is held up by two vertical poles

## Little Jokes

CD track 18 -Fnalishman & Irishwoman

Match each joke beginning (1 to 8) with its ending (A-H). Then, listen to check **VOUR ONSWERS.** Answers on page 42

- 1. What did one egg say to the other egg?
- 2. What gets bigger the more you take away?
- 3. Why do gorillas have big nostrils?
- 4. What do the poor have that the rich don't want?
- What has four legs but can't walk?
- **6.** When are cooks cruel?
- 7. Why didn't the skeleton cross the road?
- 8. Why did the maths book have to see a psychologist?
- A: Nothing.
- **B:** Because he had so many problems.
- C: When they **beat** the eggs and whip the cream.
- D: Let's get cracking!
- E: Because he didn't have the
- Because they have big fingers
- G: A hole.
- **H**: A table.



### a nostril n

your nose has two nostrils - the holes through which you breathe to beat vb

two meanings: a) to hit many times in order to cause pain; b) if you "beat" an egg, you use a fork or other implement to mix all of the egg together

### to whip vb

a) if you "whip" cream, you use a fork (or other implement) to make it thick and frothy; b) to hit with a whip (a long thin piece of leather) **let's get cracking** *exp* 

let's go; if you "crack" an egg, you break it in order to open it and

### cook it didn't have the guts exp

wasn't brave/courageous enough; your "guts" are the organs inside your stomach (the intestines, etc)

US woman & US man Here are some more examples of British toilet graffiti.

CD track 19 -

BEHIND EVERY SUCCESSFUL MAN IS A SURPRISED

I TOLD THE DOCTOR I BROKE MY LEG IN TWO PLACES. HE TOLD ME TO STOP GOING TO THOSE PLACES.

> **EVERYBODY WANTS** TO GO TO HEAVEN: BUT NOBODY WANTS TO DIE

A COMPUTER ONCE BEAT ME AT CHESS, BUT IT WAS NO MATCH FOR ME AT KICK BOXING

**EVERYONE IS ENTITLED TO** THEIR OWN OPINION. IT'S JUST THAT YOURS IS STUPID.

THE WORLD'S WORST EXCUSE FOR NOT TURNING IN HOMEWORK: COULDN'T FIND ANYONE TO COPY IT FROM.

### chess n

a board game for two players. The objective is to check-mate the opposing king

it was no match for me exp I was too good for it

to be entitled to something exp

### DANCING AUDITION BY DANIEL COUTOLINE

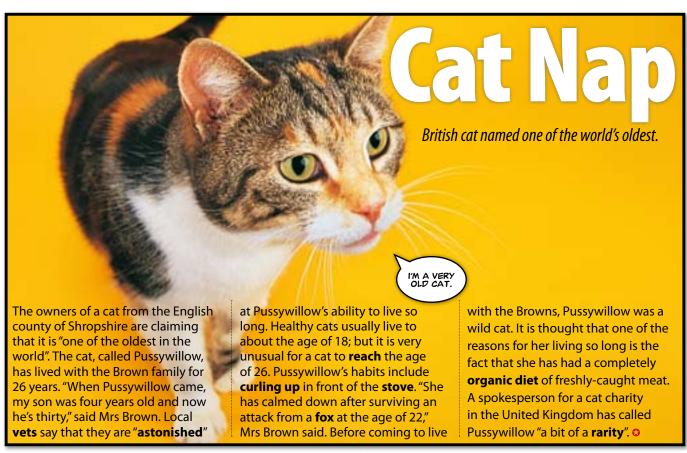






## NEWS STORIES





## sacardi



Rum sales on the up.

Britain's drinking habits are changing according to a recent report. In the past, the spirit market in the UK was dominated by whisky, vodka and gin; but now it seems that people are starting to favour rum, which is a product of sugarcane and is far more popular in Latin countries. In some places, sales of **rum** have risen by up to 65%. One reason given by the **retailers** for the increasing popularity of rum is the success of the film Pirates of the Caribbean. The release of the three pirate adventures starring Johnny Depp was accompanied by one of the biggest marketing campaigns in history. Often, Johnny Depp's character, Captain Jack Sparrow, was shown to be drinking a bottle of rum. Retailers think that the impact of the film was so great that it may have changed completely the nation's drinking habits. There has also been a rise in popularity of rum based cocktails such as mojitos and piña coladas, and the leading brands (Havana Club, Appleton XV and Bacardi) are reporting large annual profits. •

### GLOSSARY

a vet n an animal doctor astonished ad

surprised to reach v

if you "reach" a certain age, you become that age to curl up p

if you "curl up", you make your body into the shape of a ball

a stove

an object that provides heat and that you use to cook food or to heat a room

a fox

an animal with red fur (hair), and a bushy tail (a tail with a lot of hair) an organic diet /

a diet that consists of food that hasn't been processed

**a rarity** *n* something unusual and strange sugarcane

a plant from which sugar is rum /

an alcoholic drink made from sugarcane

a retailer

a person who sells things in his/ her shop

a release

if a film is "released", it is shown in cinemas to the public a mojito n

an alcoholic drink made from

sugarcane and lime a piña colada r

an alcoholic drink made with

pineapple

### A monthly look at things from the month.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Come and celebrate March with us in our series on anniversaries

By Mark Pierro.



### March 1st 2007

171 Swiss soldiers "accidentally" invade

Liechtenstein (that's their explanation, anyway). There is nothing more to add to this.



### March 2nd 1836

The Texas Revolution starts. This is a

declaration of independence of the Republic of Texas from Mexico that leads to independence and lots of Hollywood films about the war starring actors such as John Wayne.



### March 4th 1882

Britain's first electric trams run in East London.



### March 7th 1827

Brazilian marines sail up the Rio Negro (Argentina)

and attack the temporary naval base of Carmen de Patagones (in Argentina), but they are defeated by the local citizens. But at least they didn't invade "accidentally"!



### March 8th 1911

International Women's Day is celebrated for the

first time, but not by many men.



### March 9th 1916

Pancho Villa leads 1.500 Mexican raiders in an

attack against Columbus, New Mexico, killing 17 people.



### March 10th 241 BC

The First Punic War. This consists of the Battle of the Aegates

Islands in which the Romans sink the Carthaginian fleet, thus ending the First Punic War.



### March 12th 1930

Mahatma Gandhi leads a 200-mile march (known as

the Dandi March) to the sea to protest against the British monopoly on salt.



### March 14th 1883

Karl Marx, German political theorist and inventor of

Marxism, dies (born 1818).



### March 15th 44 BC

Julius Caesar, Dictator of the 🎑 Roman Republic,

is stabbed to death by Marcus Junius Brutus, Gaius Cassius Longinus, Decimus Junius Brutus and several other Roman senators with equally long names ending in "us" on a date that is known as the Ides of March.



### March 17th 1845

The rubber band is patented to the delight of

thousands of schoolchildren who proceed to fire them at unsuspecting teachers.



### March 18th 1962

The Evian Accords puts an end to the Algerian War of

Independence, which began in 1954. France leaves her colony.



### March 19th 1972

India and Bangladesh sign a friendship treaty. Oh, that's nice.



### March 20th 1916

Albert Einstein publishes his general theory of relativity.



### March 21st 1935

Shah Reza Pahlavi formally asks the international

community to call Persia by its native name, Iran, which means "Land of the Aryans".



### March 23rd 1956

Pakistan becomes the first Islamic republic in the world.



### March 27th 1970

Concorde makes its first supersonic flight.



### March 28th 845

Paris is sacked by Viking raiders led by the brutal chief

Ragnar Lodbrok. He collects a huge ransom in exchange for leaving. Paid for leaving! Now that's thinking.



### March 30th 1858

Hymen Lipman patents a pencil with an eraser

attached to the end of it.



### March 31st 1903

Richard Pearse makes the world's first powered flight.

After flying a few hundred metres, he crashes into a hedge. 3

Russian presidential elections. Tentative date for the Spanish



### Taiwanese presidential

elections. arch 15th National Day (Hungary)

Saint Patrick's Day — Ireland's



Purim (Jewish holiday). World Day for Water.

### a fleet n

a group of ships that is designed to do something, such as fighting

to patent vb

to register a new product as your invention

to the delight of exp

to the happiness of unsuspecting adj

an "unsuspecting" person doesn't understand what is happening

### around him/her an eraser n

an object used to remove writing/ marks made by pencil

### a hedge n

a long line of bushes (small trees), often used to separate gardens





This month, we're looking at two political enemies from Ireland/Northern Ireland: Ian Paisley and Martin McGuinness.

### Ian Paisley

The Reverend Ian Paisley (MP) has been a **Unionist** politician since the 1960s, and he's always been controversial. He is well-known for his firebrand speeches and his use of biblical language. In one incident, Paisley was thrown out of the European Parliament for accusing the Pope of being the **Antichrist**. At the time, the Pope was making a speech. Paisley has also attacked the gay community on numerous occasions and is viewed by many as a demagogue. However, over the past few years, Paisley has been involved in negotiations with the Irish and British governments as well as Irish **Republicans** aimed at settling the conflict in Northern Ireland. In the end, an agreement was signed in 1998 (known as the Good Friday Agreement) and now Ian Paislev has become the First Minister of Northern Ireland in a **power-sharing government** with his former enemies from Sinn Féin. Paisley is married with five children, one of whom (lan Junior) is a senior member of

his father's political party, the **DUP** (Democratic Unionist Party). Rumour has it that the IRA never killed Paisley because Paisley is the IRA's best recruiting agent: every time he speaks, Republicans are motivated to join the IRA.

### **Martin McGuinness**

Martin McGuinness (MP) has been involved with the Republican Movement since about 1970, when he joined the Provisional IRA in Derry. He has admitted to being a member of the IRA on several occasions and even stated to the Saville Inquiry that he was second in command of the Derry Brigade at the time of Bloody Sunday in 1972. He has also been involved in negotiations between the IRA and the British government since this time and, at the moment, he is Sinn Féin's chief negotiator. He once had a conversation with the British Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Mo Mowlam, which was recorded by MI5, in which she famously called him "babe". Although Gerry Adams is the Sinn Féin president and is much betterknown, McGuinness has taken

the important government position of Deputy First Minister in the Northern Irish Assembly, alongside his former foes in the Unionist parties. Martin McGuinness is married with four children. He is a keen sports fan and likes Gaelic Football. He is also a fan of Derry City soccer team and Glasgow Celtic.

Although Martin McGuinness is an MP, he, like the rest of Sinn Féin, never attends the British Parliament because he doesn't recognise British authority in Ireland.

### The Verdict

Martin McGuinness is a former member of the IRA but he has always openly admitted this. Ian Paisley has never been directly involved with Loyalist paramilitaries but he has had a lot of questionable contacts with them and his speeches have incited hatred and violence. Despite this, both Paisley and McGuinness have agreed to let bygones be bygones and share power in Northern Ireland for the sake of ordinary people. Our verdicts therefore are as follows: Ian Paisley = 7/10;

Martin McGuinness = 8/10. ♥

### DR FINGERS' BLOG

If you want to see Ian Paisley in action (attacking the Pope), visit Dr Fingers' blog:

www. hotenglishmagazine. com/blog

### a Unionist n

a person who wants Northern Ireland to remain a part of Britain (the United Kingdom)

a firebrand speech n a talk to the public that creates a lot of emotion/hatred/anger, etc

the Antichrist the devil

### a demagogue n

a political leader who tries to get support by appealing to people's emotions

### a Republican n

a person who wants Northern Ireland to be united with Ireland and for Britain to leave Ireland to settle a conflict ex

### to find a solution to a war

a power-sharing government n situation in which two (opposing) political parties are governing a . country or region

### Sinn Féin n

an Irish political movement and party dedicated to the unification of Ireland. The name translates as "ourselves" or "we ourselves" or "ourselves alone"

**a recruiting agent** n a person who tries to get people to join a party/organisation, etc Bloody Sunday

a massacre of civilians by a British

### army unit in 1972

### an enemy

to let bygones be bygones exp to forget the past and to move forward



### **Grow Up**

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Give up your struggle, You know it's been said, You're fighting yourself, But it's all in your head, When will it come to an end?

Leave it all, Know when to leave it, Know what it means, yeah, Really **perceive** it, When will you learn? Oh, when will you learn?

Maybe somebody ought to show you, The meaning of live and let live, However, will you be able? To justify, justify?

Don't you think things could be better? Don't you see how good they could be? Wake up before you're left dreaming, You can look but you don't always see.

How **blind** we can be, how blind we can be.

Don't you think things could be better? Don't you see how good they could be? Wake up before you're left dreaming, You can look but you don't always see.

How blind we can be, how blind we can be.



a struggle n a fight to perceive vb to notice/see live and let live exp to accept things as they are - not to try to change things with no ability to see

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### **VOCABULARY** CD track 24 -**English** accents

## TYPICAL DIALOGUES

Learn some useful words and expressions to use in the theatre.

A play (a theatre play) – a story that is acted in the theatre.

A theatre -a building where theatre plays are performed.

An actor (man) / actress (woman) – the people who act in a play. Very often, the word "actor" is used for both men and women

A performance – a time when actors act in a play in front of an audience. For example: the 3 o'clock performance. / the 7 o'clock performance. / the matinee (afternoon) performance.

A script – the text for the play.

The stage – the area where the actors act. "Stage left" is on an actor's left as he/she is looking towards the audience ("stage right" is the opposite). "Up stage" is the area next to the audience; and "down-stage" is the area at the back of the theatre (on the stage).

**Scenery** – the painted structure on the stage that shows where the action is taking place (in the mountains, at a church, etc).

A backdrop – a large piece of painted cloth that shows where the scene is set (in a house, in a desert, etc).

Props – the objects or pieces of furniture that are used by actors in a play.

The audience – the people who are watching the play.

Lines – the text that actors say in a play. Actors have to learn their lines "by heart" (to memorise them).

A rehearsal – a practice for the play with the actors.

A "read-through" (a "cold read") them bad luck. •

is the first time the actors sit down to read the play.

A "run-through" is a practise from beginning to end without stopping. A "silent run-through" is a practise from beginning to end without stopping and without speaking.

A "speed-through" is a practise from beginning to end, acting very quickly.

A "technical run-through" is a practise from beginning to end with all the music, lights and other technology.

A "dress rehearsal" is a final practice before the theatre opens to the public.

To gd lib – if an actor "ad-libs", he/ she invents words because he/she has forgotten their lines. Also, "to improvise".

Costumes – the clothing worn by actors.

An understudy – an actor who studies one of the roles in case the principal actor gets sick.

A role – a part in a play. The "lead role" is the most important part in the play.

The score – the music that accompanies the play/musical.

An intermission – a break in the play that gives people time to go to the bathroom, or get drinks.

A standing ovation – when the audience stands and claps for the actors because they are so impressed.

A curtain call – a time at the end of the play when the actors come out to receive applause.

### THEATRE EXPRESSIONS

"Break a leg" – this is what actors say to one another before acting. They never say "Good luck" or the word "Macbeth" as this will bring

In this conversation, the play is about to start, but one of the characters is unable to go on stage.

Come on, the curtain Nigel:

is about to go up for the second act.

Stan: I don't think Francesca

can make it.

**Bob**: What's wrong? Stan: She's drunk.

Nigel: But she's the lead role. I told you to keep her away from that bottle of gin.

Stan: She's upset about some of the

reviews she's been getting.

Nigel: I gave strict instructions for any

copies of the Evening Herald to be kept out of the theatre. Who brought

them in?

Stan: I don't know.

Nigel: Where's the understudy. Stan:

We don't have one. (Drunken singing

in the background can be heard.)

Nigel: Tell her to shut up. Throw some water on her face, give her some strong coffee. Do something! (The audience

goes quiet.)

(Singing drunkenly.) I don't care what Francesca:

you write or say...

Nigel: Francesca. The audience are waiting.

There's a full house out there.

Francesca: Oh, shut up! You're all the same, you...

critics.

Nigel: Francesca, it's me - the director. Come

on, it's time to go on stage.

Francesca: I won't! I won't! No one loves me.

Nigel: Yes, they do. They adore you. You're

a star. Now, can you remember your

lines?

Francesca: I am a professional. I'm an actress. I

know all my lines.

Well, get on stage and "break a Nigel:

> leg!". Come on! That's it. (Getting desperate.) Please, for the love of

**God**, get on that stage.

Francesca: OK. I'll go and do some acting. (She

trips and falls.) I still have my dignity, you know.

Nigel: OK, everyone.

She's going on. Action stations.

Francesca: (Tothe audience.)

Hello... I... erm...To be or not to be. Erm... (She

falls down.) 🗯

to make it exp if you "make it", you become famous upset ad angry and sad a review an article about a film/play, etc for the love of God ex an expression of desperation/

action stations exp something you say to tell everyone to get ready because something important is about to start

## <u> VOCABULARY CLINIC:</u>



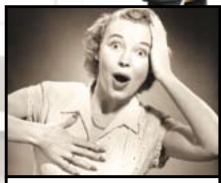
Here are some more useful and interesting expressions for you to learn. This month we are looking at some more "surprise" expressions.



A bolt out of the blue Something that really surprises you. "The news that they had got married was a **bolt** out of the blue."



Frighten / scare someone out of their wits To make someone very frightened. "Don't do that again! You frightened me out of my wits."



Not know what hit you To feel very surprised by something that has suddenly happened to you. "She stood there in amazement, not really knowing what had hit her."



Something you say when the person you are talking about actually appears. "Oh, speak of the devil. We were just talking about you."



Appear out of thin air To appear suddenly and unexpectedly. "No one had seen her for ten years. Then, one day, she just appeared out of thin air."



On the spur of the moment Without reflexion; without thinking; without considering the risks, etc. "I don't like to make decisions on the spur of the moment."



Drop a bombshell To say something that really shocks "My brother dropped a bombshell when he told us that he was off to

Panama."



Beyond your wildest dreams More than you could ever have imagined. "The results were beyond our wildest dreams."

**GLOSSARY** 

a bolt n a "bolt" of lightning is a flash of light in the sky that happens during wits n

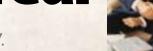
your intelligence

## Headline News

The voice of the people

London 2008

## **US Word of the Year**



American linguists vote on the word of the year for 2007.

Members of the American Dialect Society have been asked to choose the word of the year for 2007. And the winner is... subprime.

So, what exactly does "subprime" mean? "Subprime" (also spelled "sub-prime") means literally "less than ideal" and is the technical term used to describe loans (especially mortgages) made to borrowers with poor credit histories.

The word came from the banking sector. It was used to describe the **home-loan crisis** in the US, which has become a global financial problem. A series of defaults on some of these loans **spread panic** through much of the banking sector. Very soon, financial institutions realised they had bought many of these loans from one another without knowing how risky they were. A spokesperson for the American Dialect Society, Wayne Glowka, said, "When

you have investment companies losing billions of dollars over something like bundled subprime loans, then you have to consider whether it's important." Other words nominated for the award included the

- Water-boarding a form of interrogation that involves **simulating drowning** in order to make the victim talk.
- A Googleganger a person who appears when you do a Google search on your name. This word comes from the German word "doppelganger".
- A ninja a loan made to a high-risk borrower. "Ninja" is an acronym of "No Income, No Job or Assets" (NINJA).
- Wrap rage anger caused by an inability to open the wrapping on a package.
- Tapafication the tendency of restaurants to serve food in many small portions - just like tapas. O

## **Childhood Genius**

New signs that you may have a genius for a child.

How can we recognise a child genius? Apparently, it's easy. Bernadette Tynan has identified six types of pupil whose talents may not be immediately noticeable. They are:

- **1. The Bossy Boots** This type of child loves to organise other children, and will do things such as telling other classmates where to sit. They are potentially future managers.
- 2. The Young Tycoon This is the type of pupil who at a very early age does things such as selling their sweets in order to make money. They could become future business tycoons.
- **3. The Enquirer** This is the sort of student who asks a lot of questions non-stop. They are potentially future journalists or scientists.
- **4. The Constructor** This is the type of pupil who, when left alone for a few minutes, will build amazing things with Lego. This child is destined to be an architect or designer.

5. The Fairy Tale Teller This pupil loves telling or writing stories. They could be the next JK Rowling.

following:

6. The Turbo-Chatterbox This type of child loves chatting in class. You can't stop them. They have an excellent verbal ability. We may see them in the future as a lawyer or on TV as an actor or actress.

Miss Tynan has recently been working on a television series called, Make your Child Brilliant. She believes that the culture of testing and exams is destroying creativity and innovation in the classroom, and argues that tests often fail to reveal many talents. And worse, some very bright children may even perform badly in tests because they over-complicate the answers, looking for a deeper meaning where it is not expected. "There is no such thing as an average Joe in my book," Miss Tynan explained. "Every child has something."

### **GLOSSARY**

a loan n

money you borrow from the bank a mortgage

money you borrow from the bank in

order to buy a house a borrowe

a person who borrows money from the bank and who repays the money with interest

a poor credit history

if someone has a "poor credit history", they have borrowed money in the past and not returned it

the home-loan crisis

a crisis that exists because many people borrowed money to buy houses and now they can't repay the money

a default

if someone "defaults" on a payment, they don't pay the money back when they should

to spread panic

to cause many people to panic to simulate

if you "simulate" an action, you pretend that you are doing that action, even though you aren't

a drowning / if there is a "drowning", someone

**a doppelganger** *n* a ghost who is a version of you

a high-risk borrower

a person with poor credit history who borrows money

wrapping /

the paper/plastic around an object/ product that is sold in shops

a tycoon /

a rich, successful business person an average Joe

an ordinary person who is not famous or rich

Unusual news stories from around the world.

# Naughty Birdy

A zoo bird is punished.

ou're stupid! Shut up! Go away, idiot!" These are just some of the things that a bird from Guangdong Zoo has been saying to visitors to the zoo. So far, more than six visitors have complained. "She was swearing at them, and calling them all sorts of horrible names," a zoo spokesperson explained.

As a result, Mimi, who is an 8-year-old mynah bird, was put into solitary confinement

for 15 days. She had to stay in a darkened cage and listen to recordings of polite conversation in a bid to improve her behaviour. "We tried all sorts of things," the zoo spokesperson explained. "When she swore, we would refuse to feed her. But it didn't work. Personally, I don't blame the bird. A lot of visitors think it's funny to teach the bird rude words. But now look what we have to do to poor Mimi." O



# Return Shock

A woman goes on holiday and returns to a different home.

'd only gone on holiday for two weeks," complained Marly Zewski to reporters in eastern Europe. "but I couldn't believe what I found when I returned home. The council had built a new road right through my back garden, with a traffic island in the middle, without asking for permission or even telling me they were going to do it. I now have to **dodge the traffic** every time I **feed** my chickens who live at the end of my garden. And when I protested, the council officials just laughed. Apparently, they've

passed a new law that says they can use private land for road building without asking for the owner's consent or paying compensation. It's disgraceful.

A spokesperson for the local council later said, "I don't know why she's complaining. It's not a very **busy** road, and she can still get to the back of her garden to feed her chickens easily. What's the problem? Her chickens are all right. She still **owns** the land. It just has a road running through it now, that's all." 0

### to swear vb to say rude/taboo words

solitary confinement n

if someone is in "solitary

confinement", they are forced to stay in a place with no other people

darkened ad

with no or very little light

a cage n

a structure of wire or metal bars for

in a bid to ex in an attempt to

to blame v

to say that someone is responsible

for something bad a council n

a group of people who are elected and who represent a town/city, etc

a traffic island n

an area of land in the middle of a road where cars can't go

to dodge the traffic

to try to avoid the cars/traffic

to feed vb

o give food to

disgraceful a

terrible, horrible

a busy road n

to own v to possess





# British bar chat

# The King's Ringtone

This month two Englishmen are talking about the controversy between the king of Spain and the Venezuelan president, Hugo Chávez.

John: All right, mate. How's

it going?

Gordon: All right. How's it

going? Yeah, good.

John: Well, I'm, I'm laughing myself, to be honest,

cos l've just been watching the videoclip of the Spanish king telling the president of Venezuela to **shut up** [yeah] at an international **summit** of

all things.

Gordon: I heard about that, yeah. Apparently it's

the number-one **ringtone** now, everyone's

downloading it.

John: Brilliant. I'm really glad that someone got him to

shut up at last.

Gordon: No, but he's got every right to talk. He's an

elected leader. The king's, you know, he was born into his position. What right has he got to...?

John: Oh, come on. He's been going on and on and on. It's blah, blah, blah, blah, blah. I mean,

it's just boring. I suppose the king's as good as

anyone to tell him to shut up.

Gordon: Well, I, it shouldn't really, it shouldn't have been the king. I mean, what was the king doing there

anyway? It's, it's supposed to be a meeting between ministers [well], elected ministers.

John: Well, I like the fact that the king's the only one

that's got enough courage to make, er, to make him shut up. Do you know what I mean? He, he told him and he, well, fair play to him.

Gordon: Well, you know a lot of people think the king was under a lot of pressure that week. You know,

his daughter, I think his daughter was getting

divorced or something

and...

John: No, I think he's just, the king, the king, he

> speaks his mind and, I think that's brilliant.

Gordon: Well, I think, I think

Zapatero should have stood in there and he should have said his bit. And then, the king

> should have just maybe walked out as a protest,

but, I suppose he did that later.

Well, another beer John:

anyway?

Gordon: Yeah, let's go for it. ❖ **GLOSSARY** 

mate exp inform friend to shut up phr vb

to stop talking a summit r

a top-level meeting

a sound that a mobile phone makes when someone calls you

to download v

to take files/information from the internet and to place them onto

your computer come on exp

something people say when they hear something surprising to go on and on exp

to talk a lot and continuously fair play to him exp info good for him

to speak your mind exp to say exactly what you are thinking to stand in phr vb

to walk out phr vb

# to leave a place as a protest

# **US** bar chat

# Will Smith monologue

This month, American actor Will Smith is talking about his latest film I am Legend. We sent one of our reporters, Marvin Palmer, to speak to him. In the film, Robert Neville (Will Smith) is the last person alive on earth, with a dog as a companion. Marvin asked Will what it was like working with the dog. This is what Will said.



The, the... you know it was like probably an hour of the film that it was just the, the dog and I. And what I found is you, you just you give life to anything. Like we, we so desperately need to **interact**. That was one of the things that I got from the, the **research**. I talked to a former **prisoner of war** and, erm, a person who had been in, in solitary confinement. And they were saying that the, it's a necessity to give life to anything, anything that you can find to give life to. Your mind desperately needs to find some interaction. So, it was, it was, er, it was wonderful with, with Abby [the dog]. Like, somehow.... Like that dog is **smart**. You know, and you know, because I know we all have dogs and pets at home. And, I mean, some of us have really, really dumb dogs. But it's, like, Abby, she actually, it was as if she spoke English. It was like she understood. She would look in my eyes and when she would see, like, I would miss one of my lines or something. There was an intelligence there that was extremely helpful in, in interacting in this film. 0



# **GLOSSARY**

to interact vb to talk/communicate with another

person research

investigation

a prisoner of war na soldier who has been captured by someone from the other side solitary confinement r

if you are in "solitary confinement", you are in a place where there are no other people

smart a clever, intelligent dumb adi

stupid

to miss vb

if you "miss" a line, you forget to say something you are supposed to say during the filming of a film

the words in a script that you have to

learn for a film

# Quotes of the Year

Here are some quotes by the rich and famous from last year (2007).



"On the outside I might look like King Kong, but inside I'm Hugh Grant."

Svlvester Stallone.



"My children are like my **toes** – I wouldn't be able to survive without them."

Kristin Scott Thomas (an English actress who starred in The English Patient).



"I think men these days are just turning into a bunch of fairies, with their facials and their body scrubs." Mick Hucknall (lead singer of the

band Simply Red).



"As much as I adore myself, I'm quite keen to find someone else to care about more." Hugh Grant.



"He is inexperienced, but he's experienced in terms of what he's been through."

Steve McClaren (ex-England football manager) talking about Wayne Rooney (England player).



"I don't need to be reminded of my age - I have a **bladder** to do that for me." Stephen Fry (English actor and comedian).



"My parents were really liberal. I knew from the start that they were naughty and did things other people's parents didn't."

Sienna Miller (American actress).

"I still cannot read and write properly. If you

offered me £10million, I couldn't recite the alphabet."

Jackie Stewart (a former British racing driver).



"Men have taught me how to make the perfect **Bloody Mary** and not much else. But then I've always been averse to learning anything

from anyone."

Julie Burchill (a British writer).



"It's incredible how good I look for my age. My face is like **Dorian Gray**. I'm generally happy with myself but everyone's got blips."

Ruby Wax (an American comedian).



"My mom was Hungarian; dad, Italian. Mom always said to me that they (mum and dad) were 'paprika and garlic'. Boy, oh boy. What a mix!"

Suzi Quatro (an American rock singer).



"Being a celebrity is like having Alzheimer's: everybody knows who you are, but you haven't the foggiest who they are."

Michael Douglas (an American actor – son of Kirk Douglas).



"Obviously I'm not gay, but I wear **florals** occasionally, perhaps on swimming trunks."

Ian Botham (an English cricket player).



"As for Tony Blair's identity cards, he can stuff them. I am never going to carry one. Not ever. I've already chosen the curtains I'm going to

hang up in **Pentonville Prison**."

Joanna Lumley (an English actress).



COME ON, SAY SOMETHING FUNNY!

a toe n

a "finger" on your foot a facial

a beauty treatment for the face

a body scrub n a beauty treatment that involves

cleaning the skin on your body keen to ex

if you are "keen to" do something, you really want to do that thing a bladder

an organ in your body in which urine is stored

**naughty** *adj* if you are "naughty", you don't behave or act well

a Bloody Mary n

a drink that consists of vodka and

tomato juice

averse to something exp if you are "averse to something", you don't like that thing

Dorian Grav

The Picture of Dorian Gray was a story by the Irish writer Oscar Wilde. In the story, Dorian remains young, but the face of Dorian on a painting starts to look older and older

you haven't the foggiest exp inform you really don't know

if clothing has "florals" on it, it has images of flowers on it

if you tell someone to "stuff" something, you are saying that you don't like that thing or that you don't agree with it

Pentonville Prison n a prison in London

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Here are some more crazy laws from the US. (US English spelling)

Persons may not spit on the steps of the opera house. (New Mexico)

One may not lead goats down the sidewalks of the city. (New Mexico)



You may not carry a lunchbox down Main Street. (New Mexico)



A fine of \$25 can be levied for men who turn around on any city street and look at a woman "in that way". (New York)

It is against the law to throw a ball at someone's head for fun. (New York)



The penalty for jumping off a building is death. (New York)



While riding in an elevator, one must not talk to anyone. (New York)

**Slippers** are not to be worn after 10:00pm. (New York)

A man can't go outside while wearing a jacket

and pants that do not match. (New York)

During a concert, it is illegal to eat peanuts and walk backwards on the

sidewalks. (New York)



Citizens may not greet each other by putting one's thumb to the nose and wiggling the fingers. (New



It is illegal to **disrobe** in a wagon. (New York)

You may only water your lawn if the hose is held in your hand. (New York) 0



to spit vb to force liquid out of your mouth

to lead vb to take someone/something and show them the way

& US man

CD track 31 - US woman

an animal with horns that gives milk a sidewalk n US a pavement – the place next to a

road where you walk

a lunchbox n

a little container for the food that you eat for lunch

money you must pay for committing

to levy v

if a fine is "levied", it is given/applied to you an elevator n

a device in a building for taking you from one floor to another

soft, comfortable shoes you wear in the house

pants n US

. trousers – clothing you wear over your legs

to match vb

if clothing "matches", it goes well together (the colours are the same, etc)

a thumb n

the thickest finger on your hand to wiggle v

if you "wiggle" something, you move it from side to side or up and down in small quick movements to disrobe

to take off clothing

a lawn r

an area of well-kept grass that is

often very flat a hose n

a long rubber tube through which water can travel – for watering the grass or cleaning a car



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# DNARY OF SLAN



Here we've got some examples of how to say things in different situations.

• Situation	Formal	Relaxed	Informal
A friend tells you of an <b>imminent</b> danger. You thank her for the warning.	Thank you for warning me of the impending danger.	Thanks for warning me about that.	Thanks for the heads up.
You are criticising an organisation that you consider to be small and of little importance.	It is of little significance.	It isn't very important.	It's a Mickey Mouse organisation.
You once had a job that paid really well.	I earned a considerable amount of money.	I earned a lot.	l was making megabucks.
You tell a friend about a restaurant where they served very large portions of food.	They serve generous helpings of nourishment.	They serve large portions.	You get mega portions; it's enough to feed a horse.
You met someone at a party who later offered you a job at her company. You tell a friend about your good luck.	I was most fortunate in making her acquaintance.	I was lucky to meet her.	I really lucked out in meeting her; that was a real stroke of luck meeting her.
A friend has some excess fat around the waist. You comment on this.	He is somewhat overweight in the region of his waist.	He's a bit fat around the waist.	He's got some love handles; he's got a couple of spare <b>tyres</b> .

# **Answers** Salaries page 7 1C 2A 3E 4F 5D 6B Trivia Matching page 16 1F 2H 3G 4E 5D 6K 7L 8J 9C 10M 11N 12I 13B 14A Little Jokes page 29 1D 2G 3F 4A 5H 6C 7E 8B

style.

GLOSSARY

imminent ad

a warning n

a wheel

Please note that some of the words in this glossary box are literal translations of parts of idiomatic

that is going to happen very soon

if someone gives you a "warning", he/she tells you of a danger a tyre n the thick rubber object that covers

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# GET BLOGGING! HOT BLOGGING!



This is another part in our series of "house" idioms.

to look into something exp to investigate something an alibi n

n explanation for where you were t the time of a crime an aduet n
an act that involves two people singing/acting, etc



# People who live in glass houses (shouldn't throw

People shouldn't criticise other people for faults that they have themselves.

"She's always criticising us for delivering late, but they never pay us on time. People who live in glass houses..."



# **Under house arrest**

If someone is "under house arrest", they are obliged by the police to stay at home because they are under investigation for a crime.

"She's been under house arrest for three weeks while they are looking into her alibi."



# Have the run of the house

To have free access to every room in the house. "Their dog has the run of the house – he can go anywhere he chooses."



A house-warming party
A party to celebrate taking possession of a new house. "We moved into our new house last week and we're having the house-warming party next Saturday. Can you come?



There wasn't a dry eye in the house Everyone in the theatre/cinema/hall was crying or very

"The film was one of the saddest that I've ever seen and by the time it had finished, there wasn't a dry eye in the house."



Bring the house down
If a comedian or actor "brings the house down" during a theatre performance, he/she makes the audience laugh a lot or clap very loudly.

The clown sang a **duét** with the talking dog, which brought the house down every night."

What's the most famous criminal case in your country? In Britain, it's probably the story of Dr Crippen. Who was he? And what did he do?

awley Harvey Crippen was born in Michigan, USA, in 1862. He was a doctor who emigrated to England with his wife, Cora Turner – a music hall entertainer. In 1900, Crippen was working at the Yale Tooth Specialists, and lived in a house in Camden Town at 39 Hilldrop Crescent. It was a big house with an annual rent of about £58. As Crippen's salary was only £3 a week, this caused a strain on their finances. It was also round about this time that Crippen started an affair with his secretary, Ethel le Neve.

The crisis, which ended with Crippen's execution, came in December 1909. Mrs Crippen knew about Crippen's affair with Ethel and threatened to leave him. This would have been fine for him, but she was also planning on taking their joint savings. On 15th December 1909, Mrs Crippen told the bank that she was going to withdraw the money. A month later, in January 1910, Crippen ordered five grains of hyoscin hydrobromide (a poison). Crippen collected the order on 19th January 1910.

About two months later, Crippen sent a telegram to Mrs Crippen's friends saying that she had died whilst in the US visiting relatives. Mrs Crippen's friends were shocked and some suspected something sinister had happened. One of them, Mr Nash, made a short visit to the US where he made some unsuccessful enquiries about Mrs Crippen. When he returned to London, he spoke to Crippen. He wasn't convinced by Crippen's answers, so he went to the police and told them the story. A week later, Chief Inspector Dew went to see Dr

Crippen. He seemed to believe Crippen, but then for some reason Crippen panicked. The next day, Crippen left for Antwerp (Holland), accompanied by Ethel, who was **disquised as** a boy. A few days later, Dew returned to the house to check a couple of dates with Crippen, but found the house empty. And after a more thorough **search**, Dew found the remains of Mrs Crippen. News of the murder hit the newspapers, but where was Dr Crippen? At that very moment he was in a ship on his way to Canada.

The story may have ended there if it hadn't been for the captain of the ship. He became suspicious of the couple's behaviour. Eventually, he sent a wireless telegraph to the police in England saying, "Have strong suspicions that Crippen London cellar murderer and accomplice are among saloon passengers." Immediately, Dew boarded a ship (the faster SS Laurentic) and arrived in Quebec ahead of Crippen.

As Crippen's ship entered the St Lawrence River, Walter Dew came on board. On meeting Crippen again, Dew said, "Good morning, Dr Crippen. Do you know me? I'm Chief Inspector Dew from Scotland Yard." After a pause, Crippen replied, "Thank God it's over. The suspense has been too great. I **couldn't stand** it any longer." Crippen and Ethel were arrested and taken back to England on the SS Megantic.

Once back in England, it was decided that

Crippen and Ethel would be tried separately. Crippen's trial (which began on 18th October 1910) lasted a short time and the jury took just 27 minutes to find Crippen guilty. He was sentenced to death by hanging. Ethel was tried 4 days later and found not guilty. On 23rd November 1910, Crippen was hanged at Pentonville Prison in London. On the same morning, Ethel sailed for New York, under the name of Miss Allen. Years later, she returned to London and married Stanley Smith. The couple had several children, eventually becoming grandparents. Ethel died in hospital in 1967, aged 84. And what about the house? It was destroyed during an air raid in World War Two. 0

# DR CRIPPEN

Born 11th September 1862 in Michigan, USA. Hanged on 23rd November 1910 for murdering his wife. One of Britain's most famous criminal cases. The case is also famous for being the first time that a criminal was arrested after information was sent by wireless telegraph.



# **GLOSSARY**

music hall n

a form of entertainment from the 19th century that consisted of songs and comic acts

### an entertainer

a person who acts/sings in front of an audience and who attempts to make them laugh

# a strain on your finances

something that causes you financial difficulties because you don't have enough money for it to threaten vb

to promise to do something bad to

# joint savings n

money that you have saved together

### with another person to withdraw v

to take money out of your bank

## account

disguised as exp if you are "disquised as" a boy, you are wearing clothing that makes you look like a boy

an attempt to find something/

wireless telegraph n

a system of communication that consisted of sending electrical signals couldn't stand exp

# hated

to try vb

if someone is "tried", there is a legal process against them to decide if they are innocent or guilty

### a jury n

the 12 people who decide if someone is guilty or innocent

not innocent



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This month we are looking at some phrasal verbs you can use to talk about crime.











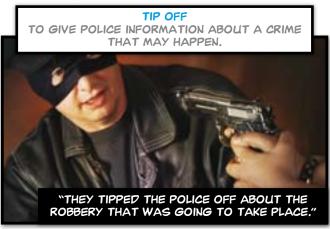












Here are three incredible stories about **twins\*** that have appeared in the news recently.

# HAPPILY REUN

Identical twin girls who were separated at birth.

hey lived separate lives. One in West Germany, the other in East Germany. But the two were separated as babies, and remained so for 26 years. But now, Conny (one of the twins) is reunited with her identical sister, Ulrike. Incredibly, and despite living completely separate lives, they are very similar. They both wear the same kind of clothes, they both use identical make-up, and they both

have the same hairstyles.

And there have been some amazing similarities in their lives: both twins had their appendixes removed at 16, both had their first child at 19, and both have the same job - event management. They also laugh in the same way, and both are calm, kind and intelligent. It is entirely impossible to tell them apart - the only difference seems to be that Conny is about 2cm taller than Ulrike.

"I've got three children, aged 20, 17 and eight, and Ulrike has four, aged 20, 16, six and two," Conny said. "We even both like the same colour schemes in our houses and often meet up wearing the same or near-identical outfits. We've had the same hairstyle as each other (long hair). However, we do have different taste in men: Ulrike's partner is

blond while mine's dark. So, none of our children look alike, though you can tell they're related."

Both Conny and Ulrike ended up living in Berlin, but on either side of the Berlin Wall. That is, until the Berlin Wall came down. Ulrike was raised in West Germany with every modern luxury and freedom, while Conny grew up in communist East Germany.

So, why were they separated? Apparently, their mother was forced by the communist state to put them

up for adoption because she was a young mother with three other children. She was struggling because all women at the time were expected to work as well.

The couple who adopted Ulrike originally offered to take both girls, but the orphanage refused because Conny had already been placed with another family. Conny was raised as the only child of a couple in the East German town of Friedrichroda, where she still lives.

Both feel anger at the system that separated them, but have been unable to find an individual to hold responsible. "It's so obviously wrong, unethical and immoral to separate two babies who were meant to be together. We're identical twins. Why split us up, especially when people wanted to adopt both of us?" Conny said. But despite their anger, they are both happy to be together again. •



Two boys who were separated at birth.

his is another incredible story of twins who were reared separately. This story is known as the case of the "Jim twins". Jim Lewis and Jim Springer were identical twins. They were only four weeks old when they were separated: each infant was taken in by a different adoptive family.

The two were finally reunited at age 39. The similarities the twins shared amazed both one another and researchers. They both have the same name, they are both 183cm tall and they both weigh exactly 82 kilos. But there's more: as youngsters, each Jim had a dog called "Toy". Each Jim has been married twice: the first wives were both called Linda and the second wives were both called Betty. One Jim named his son James Allan and the other Jim named his son James Alan. Both Jims had at one time had part-time jobs as **sheriffs**. And if that isn't incredible, what is? •

# MARRIAGE MIX-UP

Separated at birth. United through marriage. Separated again.

"If you start trying to conceal someone's identity, sooner or later the truth will come out," said an MP after a pair of twins who were adopted by separate families as babies got married without knowing they were brother and sister. Later, a court annulled the marriage. An MP used the case to demonstrate the need for children to be able to find out about their biological parents.

Their story was used during a debate on the Human Fertility and Embryology Bill.

"They were never told that they were twins," the MP explained. "They met later in life and felt an inevitable attraction. If you don't know you are biologically related to someone, you may become attracted to them and tragedies like this may occur." Psychologists say that we are naturally drawn to people who are guite similar to ourselves. And this story seems to justify the theory. •

# TWIN FACTS

Here are some interesting facts about twins.

Up to 22% of twins are left-handed. Generally, only 10% of the population are left-handed.

The chance of having twins is about 1 in 285.

William Shakespeare had a set of boy-girl twins.

A woman in Russia in the 1700s gave birth to 16 sets of twins, in addition to 7 sets of triplets, and 4 sets of quads.

Twins do not have to be born on the same date. The longest gap between birth is 85 days.

Only 14% of women carry **multiples** past 37 weeks. Most women give birth prematurely and require a **c-section**.

Of all the twin births, 56% are spontaneous (meaning the couple did not use fertility drugs).

Twins do not necessarily have the same father.

It is possible for a mother to release two eggs separately as much as 24 days apart.

Worldwide there are at least 125 million living multiples.

The United States has one of the highest rates of multiples, while Japan has one of the lowest. In some places, there is a greater possibility of giving birth to twins. For example, in Massachusetts and Connecticut, the twinning rate is 25% higher than the rest of the US; in Nebraska and New Jersey it is 100% higher; but in Hawaii it's 30% lower than in the rest of the US.

The Yoruba tribe in Nigeria has the highest rate of multiple births in the world. No one is sure why, but it could have something to do with all the **yams** they eat.

Elvis Presley was a twin at birth. Tragically, his brother died shortly after being born.

Famous people who have had twins or who are the fathers of twins include James Stewart, Margaret Thatcher, President George W. Bush, Robert DeNiro, Mel Gibson, Muhammad Ali and Denzel Washington. O

# TWINS - TWO TYPES

The two main types of twins are fraternal twins and identical twins. Fraternal twins (also known as "non-identical twins") are twins that come from separately fertilised **ova** and who each have a different genetic makeup. They may be of the same or opposite sex. Identical twins come from the same fertilized ovum. At an early stage, the ovum becomes separated into independently growing cells. The result is two individuals of the same sex, identical genetic makeup, and similar appearance. Identical twins are very unusual, and a complete fluke of nature.

# event management n

organising festivals, business conferences, etc

# an outfit n

a set of clothes (a shirt and trousers) that complement one another

### related a of the same family

### the Berlin Wall r

a wall that separated West and East Berlin during the Cold War (1940s-1990s) – a period of conflict between the West and the Soviet Union

# to struggle $\it vb$

if you are "struggling", you are having a difficult time

**an orphanage** *n* a home for children who have no narents to raise v

### if you "raise" a child, you educate and care for that child until he/she

is an adult to hold someone responsible exp

### to say that someone is responsible for something bad

a sheriff n a type of police officer in charge of a county

# an MP abb a Member of Parliament – a person

who is elected to represent citizens to annul  $\nu b$ to cancel

### a biological parent n your mother or father triplets /

three children born at the same time and from the same mother auads

### four children born at the same time and from the same mother multiples n

more than one child (two, three, four, etc) born at the same time and from the same mother

### a c-section abl

a caesarean section – a form of childbirth which involves a surgical

# multiple births

more than one child (two, three, four, etc) born at the same time and from the same mother a yam n

### a root vegetable which grows in tropical regions. It is similar to a potato

### an ova r

the reproductive cells of a woman or female animal (the things that become fertilised). The singular

### a fluke of nature exp

something completely accidental and unusual

Thomas Reeve (25) is a Hot English teacher and a twin. He was born on the 28th of March 1982 and together with his brother he holds an unusual twin record. We spoke to him about this record and his experiences of being a twin.

# How did it all start?

I was born in Ulsan, South Korea. At the time, my father was working there and my mother became pregnant. She only found out a few hours before giving birth that she was going to have twins. The doctor

gave my parents a very big shock when he told them, "Mr and Mrs Reeve, you will have multiple births". So, to add to the confusion, it was unclear how many births there were going to be. Luckily, for my mother, there were only two: my brother Pieter and me. Although, for a moment,

she thought it could have been more.

# So, what's this record you hold?

Well, we were born as British citizens (my father is British and my mother is Dutch), and when my father went to the British consulate to register our births he found out about our strange record: it

turned out that we were the first British-born twins in South Korea. A record of which I am very **proud**.

# What's it like being a twin?

Many people ask

me this but, of course, I don't know how it's different from not being a twin. Obviously, it's fun to grow up with somebody your own age, although my older sister might disagree with this. We often teamed up against her, which wasn't very fair.

# Do people ever confuse you?

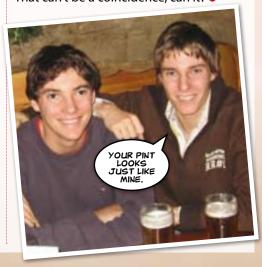
No, we aren't identical twins. And besides, my brother is much taller and more handsome than I am. He has dark hair and brown eyes and I have blond hair and blue eyes. However, when we were at school, our teachers would often get our names mixed up. So, to make things easier, my mother used to buy all my clothes in blue and all my brother's clothes in red.

# What's the strangest "twin experience" you've ever had?

Well, my brother and I decided that after 18 years sharing the same room we should separate for a bit. So, on our gap**year** we went to New Zealand: I went to the North Island and my brother to the

> South Island, It was a time of great independence. Neither of us bothered to phone home to England, although we did send the **odd e-mail**. After a month or so, I decided to call up my mother, but I couldn't get through because the line was engaged. Five minutes

later, I tried again and my mother picked up the phone. And the first thing she said was, "Wow! That's a coincidence. You'll never guess who I was just speaking to?" She told me that my brother – who was about 900 kilometres away at the time - had decided to make that first phone call home at exactly the same time as me. That can't be a coincidence, can it? •



### to register vb

if you "register" something, you give details of that thing to the authorities or an official body proud ac

pleased and happy with something vou have done to team up against someone exp

to join together with someone in order to attack another person

to get someone's names mixed

to confuse someone's name; to call someone by the wrong name a gap year r a year during which many British students travel or work before going

to university neither of us bothered exp

neither of us had the energy to do X the odd e-mail

an e-mail every now and then (not very often)

to get through phr vb

if you "get through" to someone, you manage to talk to them by phone engaged ad

if a phone is "engaged", you cannot talk to the person you want to talk to because they are already talking to another person

you'll never guess 🛚 you could never imagine

# **NEWS STORIES**





For years, the card game bridge\* has been associated with smartlydressed people, good manners and fair play. But just recently things have been changing. The English Bridge Union have said that a "new type of bridge player has emerged... in shorts, smelly T-shirts, sandals and no socks". The union says that during the 1970s and the 1980s players "wore jackets and ties to evening sessions, but now people are likely to be scruffier". This relaxation of the **dress-code** has led to the loss in the "high social standards" that bridge players usually conform to. Mr Forrester, a spokesperson for the bridge players' union said, "If you allow people to dress in a particular way, they tend to act according to what they are wearing". So, in order to counter this problem, the English Bridge Union have released a new code of rules stating "that people should attend matches attired in smart, evening dress. Otherwise they shall be refused entry to the table". •

# Clever Chim

Humans out-performed by chimpanzees.

Research from Japan shows that in some areas humans can be **out-performed** by chimpanzees. The tests carried out by lead researcher Tetsuro Matsuzawa of Tokyo University showed that chimps have incredibly good memory recall – what Matsuzawa dubbed "a photographic memory". Until now it was assumed that chimps could not match humans mentally in any area, but the new research claims that this is not true. Matsuzawa said that, "There are still many people, including many biologists, who believe that humans are superior to chimpanzees in all **cognitive functions**. No one can imagine that at the age of five, chimps have a better performance in memory tasks than humans." The research involved a group of chimpanzees and a group of university students. The two groups were asked to remember the exact position of **dots** on a screen; and over a period of time the chimps out-performed the students. One news organisation said that it shows for the very first time that chimps have an extraordinary photographic memory that is far superior to ours. Other leading scientists have remarked that the work is an "important breakthrough in psychology". ©



smartly-dressed ad wearing formal clothes fair play

showing respect and tolerance towards everyone scruffy ad

if someone is "scruffy", they are wearing dirty, old clothes

a dress-code the rules that tell you what clothes you must wear

to tend to phr vb f you "tend to" do something, you

normally do that thing to counter a problem to deal with a problem; to find a

solution to a problem to release v

if something is "released", it becomes available to the public

attired of

smart o

"smart" clothes are clean, neat and

evening dress n

clothing worn for formal occasions: a black tie and jacket for men, for example

to refuse entry *exp* 

to say that someone cannot enter

to out-perform vb

if you "out-perform" someone in a task, you do better than them

memory recall r the ability to remember things to match vb

if you can "match" someone's abilities, you can do as well as them cognitive functions n

things you do with your brain: classifying, summarising, describing, a dot

a small circle

a breakthrough n

a new and important development

# Word of the month: euphemism

This month's word is "euphemism". Euphemisms are very useful forms of language. Find out more about them.

asically, a euphemism is a substitute word - a polite word or expression that people use when they are talking about something which other people may find unpleasant, upsetting or embarrassing. In other cases, euphemisms can be used to make something sound better than it really is. When we use euphemisms, we are protecting ourselves or others from reality. As you can imagine, many euphemisms refer to sex, bodily functions, war and death. In politics, euphemisms are often used to hide the truth, or to make something bad not appear as bad as it really is. Here are a few examples. The first sentence of each pair is the euphemistic way of saying it; and the second sentence is the more literal translation:

- She passed away last night. = She died last night.
- I need to spend a penny. = I need to go to the
- I'm a pedagogical instructor. = I'm a teacher.
- That company is in the middle of downsizing. = That company is **sacking** workers.
- There was a considerable amount of collateral damage during the bombing. = Many civilians were killed during the bombing.
- The prisoner was given a lethal injection. = The prisoner was executed with poison.
- He decided to come out. = He decided to admit to being



homosexual.

- She works for a waste recycling company. = She is a rubbish collector.
- He is a sanitation engineer. = He is a janitor.
- She is a transparent-wall maintenance officer. = She is a window cleaner. •

### GLOSSARY

upsetting ad that causes people to be sad or

angry

to tell someone to leave their job a janitor n

a person who is in charge of the maintenance of a building

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